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ISSN 1836-3717

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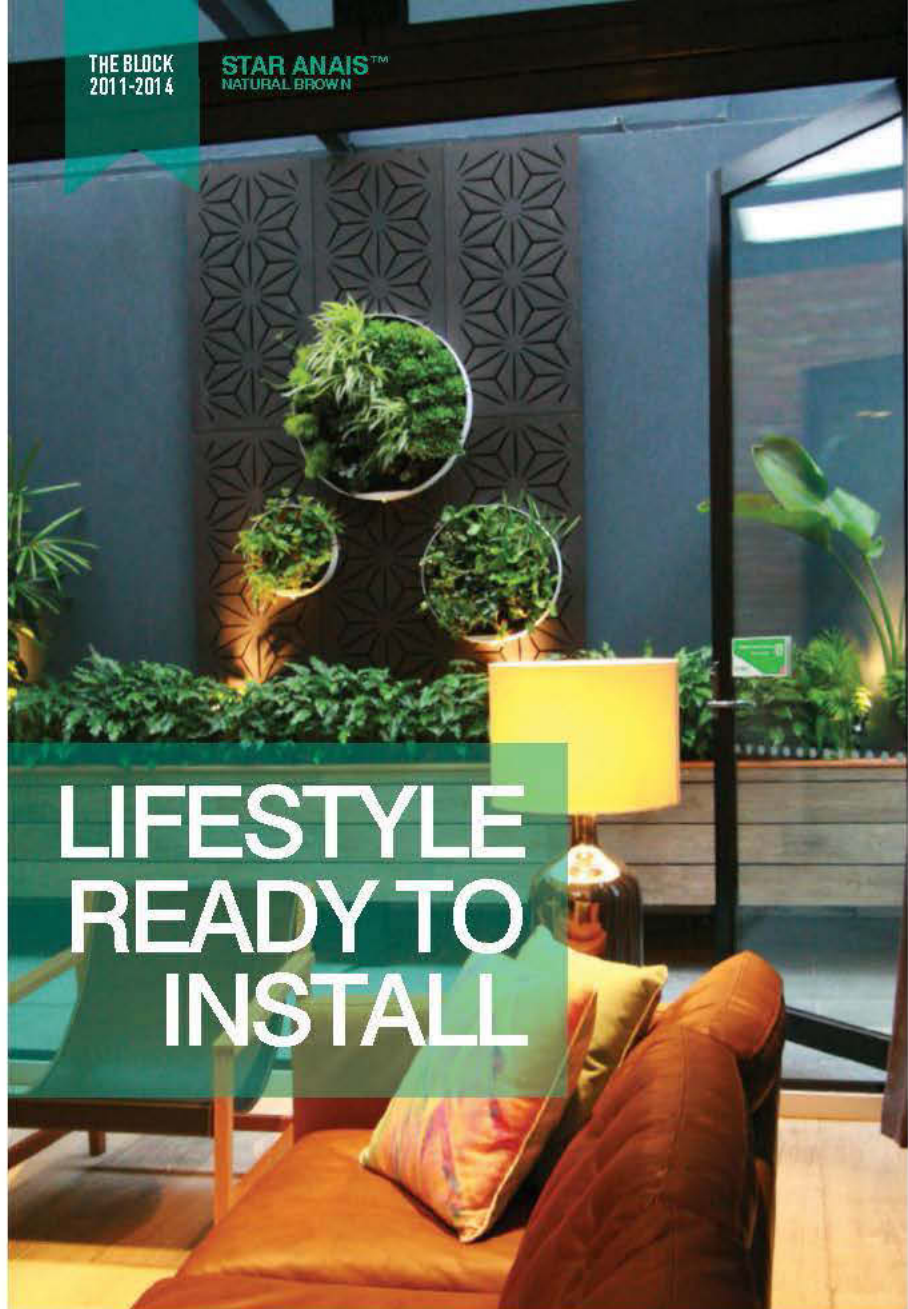


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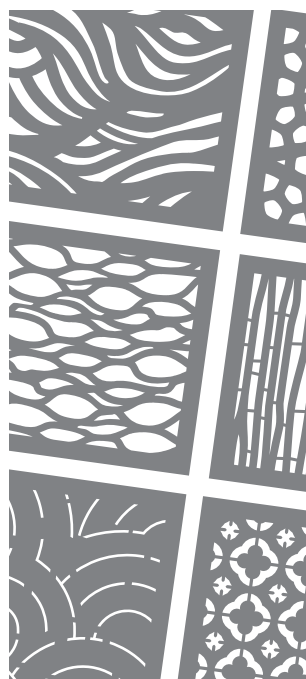
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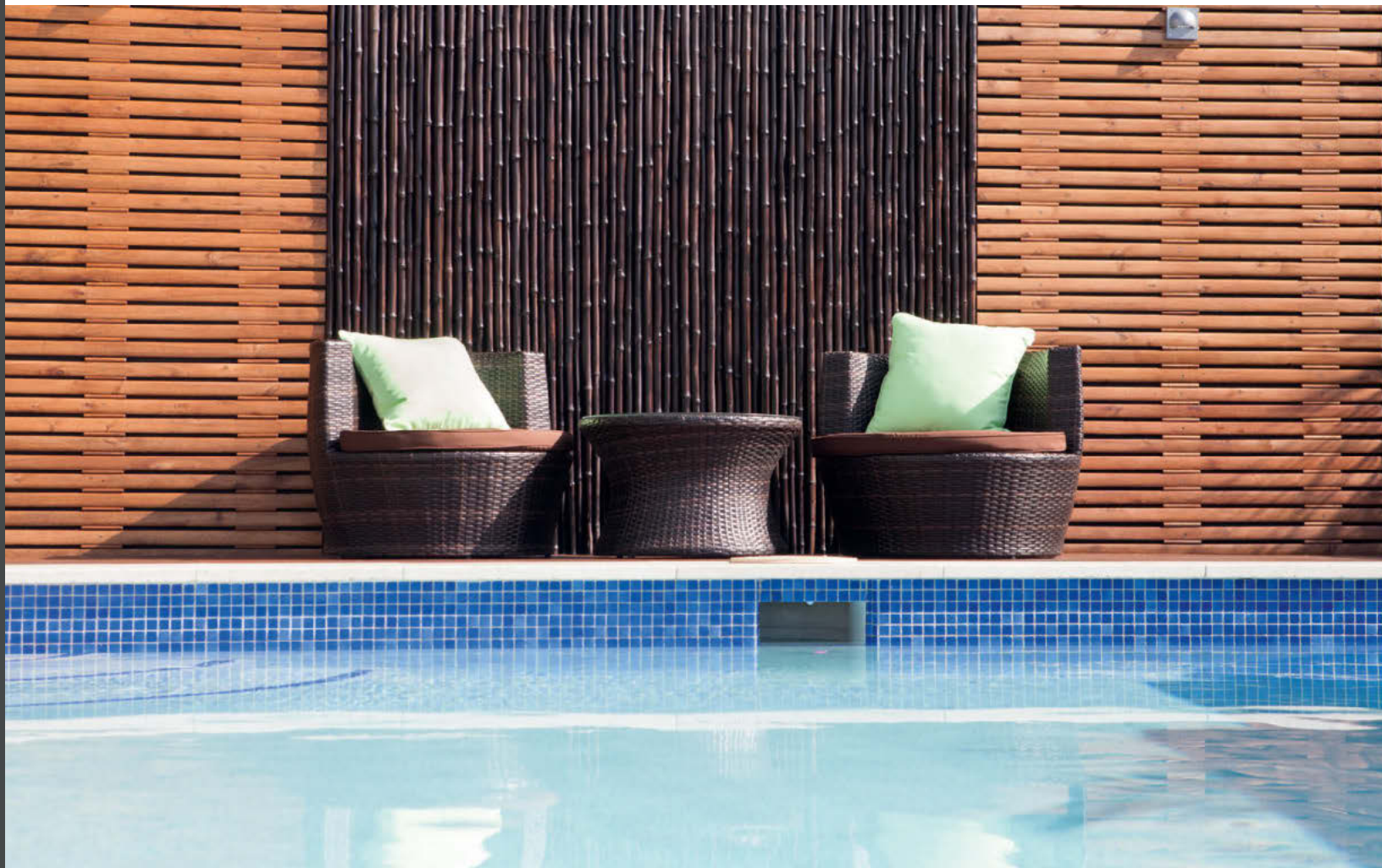




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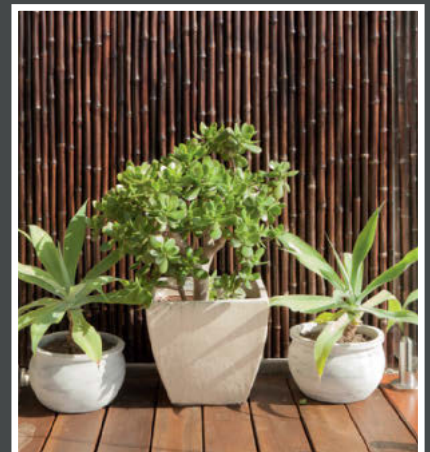
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FROM THE EDITOR

From the stunning project by the beach in Barbados, designed by world-renowned designer Kelly Hoppen, to the more modest prefab by Eco Shelter, this issue has ideas for everyone. Making the most of your outdoor area is something we can all do with some planning and advice, whether your project is a full-blown architectural masterpiece or simply an area set aside for outdoor cooking and entertaining or just for sitting in a quiet spot to relax.

Simple jobs can be handled on your own and with the help of family members, and these can include laying some turf and planting a few shrubs, flowers and even herbs for your kitchen. Buying a few pieces of outdoor furniture and creating an environment to enjoy doesn't need to be a huge undertaking either, as long as you put some thought into it. However, if your outdoor area is large and your needs are greater, then calling in the experts is definitely the way to go to achieve a quality outcome. As with designing and building a home, creating an outdoor room and garden requires the same considerations for planning, budgeting, materials and workmanship.

Our projects this issue showcase the brilliant results achieved by the experts and illustrate the diversity of concepts, materials and products available to personalise your own space. And our features and product pages provide useful information on what to use and what to buy.

With summer upon us and warm days and longer evenings to enjoy for many months to come, it's a great time to be outside. I hope this issue inspires you. Happy reading.

Kate

Kate St James, FDIA
Editor-in-Chief



Making the most of your outdoor area is something we can all do with some planning and advice, whether your project is a full-blown architectural masterpiece or simply an area set aside for outdoor cooking and entertaining or just sitting in a quiet spot to relax

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Subscription enquiries: 1300 303 414.

Circulation enquiries to our Sydney head office: (02) 9805 0399

Outdoor Rooms No. 25 is published by Universal Magazines Pty Ltd, Unit 5,

6-8 Byfield Street, North Ryde NSW 2113, Australia. Phone: (02) 9805 0399,

Fax: (02) 9805 0714. Printed by KHL Printing, Singapore.

Distributed by Network Services, Phone: (02) 9282 8777.

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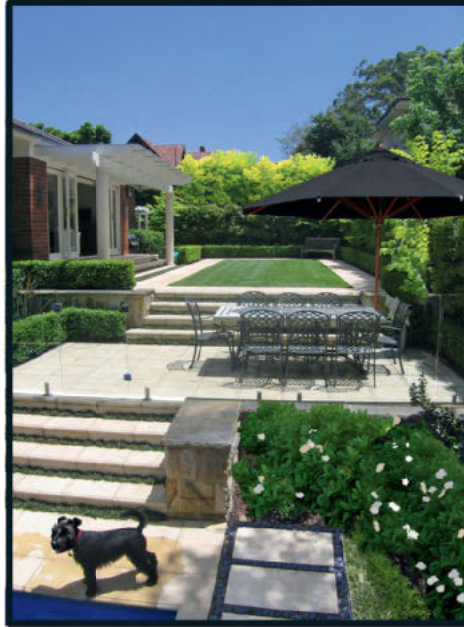
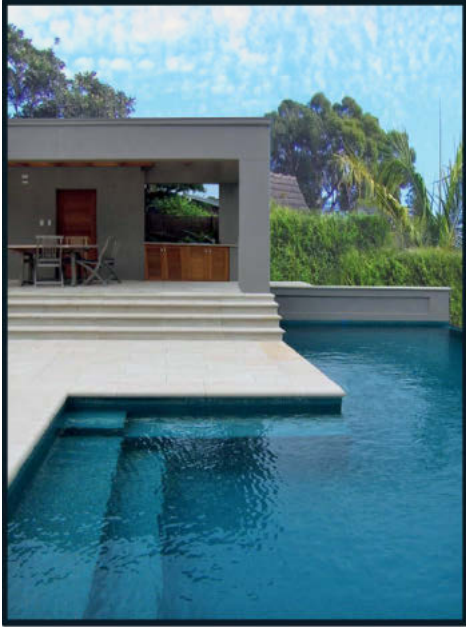
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"Everybody enjoys living around a great green space – it has an obvious aesthetic value and drastically improves the quality of living" – Anthony Muscat, p.102

designs for outdoor living



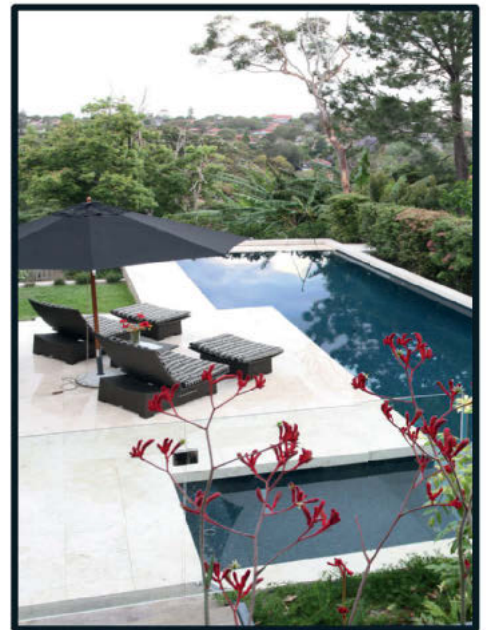
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A photograph of a modern backyard at dusk. In the center is a rectangular hot tub. To the left, a large aloe plant is illuminated by warm ground lights. A white hanging egg chair with a blue patterned cushion hangs from a string. In the background, a modern house with large glass doors and a balcony is visible. The yard is landscaped with various plants, including a bamboo screen on the right and succulents in the foreground.

CALIFORNIA DREAMING

The casual feel of this contemporary outdoor space lends itself perfectly to the owner's lifestyle as an avid entertainer

Words Karen Booth **Photography** Landart Landscapes

Two large aloe plants frame this backyard design and give it its Palm Springs holiday vibe

This casual yet contemporary outdoor entertaining space in a coastal suburb of Sydney has the look and feel of a Palm Springs resort. Designed by Matthew Leacy of Landart Landscapes, it's an outdoor retreat that has it all.

"The request from the client was for a design with an amazing entertaining space and outdoor kitchen," says Matthew. "There was also an ugly spa that needed to be hidden somewhere in the design and a stack-stone wall that was to remain but somehow be softened. Capturing and complementing the view was important, too, but the rest was basically up to me. I was really lucky to have such good clients who were also really passionate about the space."

The large *Aloe barberae* trees framing the entrance to the deck and the house are the signature pieces of this space. "They add some scale to balance out the predominantly tall house without screening the view; they also have an amazing structure and look incredible when lit," adds Matthew. "Like the aloes, the other plants were chosen for their structural form, colour and contrasting foliage, as well as their hardiness in the coastal location. These included *Dracaena draco*, *Pennisetum*, *Carex*, *Poa* and *Senecio*."



"The request from the client was for a design with an amazing entertaining space and outdoor kitchen" — Matthew Leacy



RIGHT This design is a lush paradise with everything its entertaining owners could dream of, from comfortable bench seating to a stylish outdoor kitchen







ABOVE Sustainable Australian hardwood decking stylishly contrasts with the raw concrete floating steps for a modern feel



Large *Aloe barberae* trees framing the entrance to the deck and the house are the signature pieces of this space

Sustainable Australian hardwood was used to construct the deck, barbecue and barbecue shade structure. This is complemented by raw concrete floating pads that form the transition between the deck and the pool. Across from the outdoor kitchen is a long bench that almost looks as if it is levitating. This divides the spaces without enclosing them. Other inspired elements are the backrests, disguised within the daybed. These can be adjusted via remote control so you don't need to get up to change the incline ... perfect for relaxing by the pool.

The Landart Landscapes construction team faced an array of challenges when creating this garden, but the trickiest was getting the huge aloes down three storeys and across a 150m distance from street to garden without using a crane. "We managed to wrestle and winch them all the way down. It is amazing what a strong, well-organised team can achieve when they set their minds to it," says Matthew. 🌿

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TROPICAL TREASURE

With timber features and
a contemporary style, this poolside
cabana is functional and chic

Words John Storch Photography A Total Concept



For this project, A Total Concept has located the swimming pool and cabana adjacent to each other, creating a visual integration between the two areas but ensuring that the cabana and nearby paved entertaining area are in fact separate from the pool area. With very young children, the homeowners wanted to keep the pool and entertaining zones separate until the kids are "pool-safe".

With its abundance of timber features and wide-opening glass windows and door looking over the swimming pool, the cabana has a tropical feel. This feeling is further enhanced by the pretty frangipani tree nearby. On a functional level, the cabana holds all the necessary features needed for entertaining, including a built-in cabinetry kitchenette, barbecue and TV, and incorporates concertina windows and a bar rest leading to the pool. Like a backyard holiday, it is a wonderful place to socialise and entertain, or to simply sit in and relax.

Next to the cabana is a paved entertaining area with an outdoor dining setting, shade sails and the stunning mature frangipani tree that visually grounds the whole outdoor room.

At night, the poolside cabana is equally usable, with LED ceiling downlights inside and energy-efficient LED lighting throughout the garden areas; a feature in itself, particularly with the frangipani tree lighting.

The project features a quality internal and external sound system which — along with all electronics such as the pool heater, light and spa jets linked with two-way switching to both the main residence and the cabana, is both practical and easy to use.



TOP The outdoor entertaining area has ample sun shelter with shade sails and tree cover





The spa features the same pavers that surround the pool, creating comfortable seating



Next to the **cabana** is a paved entertaining area with an outdoor dining setting, shade sails and the stunning mature **frangipani** tree that visually grounds the outdoor room



TOP Natural materials of stone and timber combine beautifully in the cabana, which features a kitchenette and integrated sound and electronic systems

ABOVE The pared-back timber cabana, light blue water and overhanging frangipani tree have a laid-back tropical holiday vibe

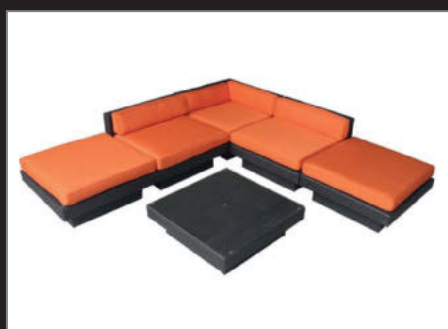
The swimming pool was designed with a deep middle and two shallow ends for safety purposes and the pool seating bays, together with the spa, can be heated for year-round enjoyment. The submerged seating bays adjacent to the steps are great for relaxing and entertaining and also safe for the young children to play on.

The swimming pool is a formal shape and style, its translucent blue glass tiles creating an alluring water colour that ties in with the project's tropical feel.

This outdoor-room project is set within tropical gardens brimming with an intentionally simple palette of glossy plants that do not detract from the main features. To ensure the plants' viability, A Total Concept incorporated composting, heavy mulching and a waterwise, fully automatic drip-irrigation system linked to large water-storage tanks.

The apparent flowing simplicity of design visually unifies all the components of this stunning outdoor room and, in doing so, adds immeasurable value to the existing property. ✨

Designed and project managed by A Total Concept Landscape Architects & Pool Designers
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BACKYARD PARADISE

With its comfortable, neutral interiors,
this Barbados abode is the epitome of
sophisticated island living

Words Emma Wheaton Photography Mike Toy

Perfect for luxury holidaying, there is an ample number of deckchairs for all-day lounging with guests and family





Light, bright and beachy, this fabulous luxury holiday home is typically tropical. Named 'Footprints', the project is the work of acclaimed UK interior designer Kelly Hoppen. Featuring her signature pale and pared back colour palette, this enormous house with extensive outdoor living areas is an ode to island life. Located on the island of Barbados in the Caribbean, it is fitting that the natural beauty of the site's surrounding landscape has influenced the design and style of the estate. "The key inspiration for the Barbados project was drawn from the tropical climate and idyllic views of its location," says Kelly, adding "As with all my designs, it is neutral, very zen and calming."

On this balmy island, a connection with the outdoors is a must, and so the property features an abundance of outdoor living areas. Open and closed terraces feature on each floor and the ground level terrace gives direct private access to a white-sand beach.

ABOVE LEFT Large potted palms set the scene on the sundeck, where the Barbados beach outlook is the standout

ABOVE Kelly designed the indoor and outdoor spaces; the furniture is from places such as Gervasoni and Kettal

The outdoor living areas are chic with an all-white colour palette against a fresh green lawn that leads to the beach





“The key inspiration for the Barbados project was drawn from the tropical climate and idyllic views of its location”
— Kelly Hoppen



Designed with comfort and entertaining at the fore, open-plan living areas were essential. “It was important to have big and open living spaces in which people could smoothly flow from an open terrace through to a dining area and into the indoor sitting room,” says Kelly.

“The home is on one of the best locations of the island and is suited for both families and those without children. It functions as a tranquil space where you can completely relax as well as being a perfect space for entertaining and having guests,” says Kelly. “I really wanted to ensure that the outdoor and indoor spaces merged seamlessly with each other to optimise the entertaining opportunities in this incredible setting and climate.”

The outdoor living areas are chic with an all-white colour palette against a fresh green lawn that leads to the beach. Seating and shade options are plentiful, for entertaining friends and family and to ensure comfort and relaxation.

This is a sophisticated yet comfortable space that captures the true essence of holiday living.

Obviously working on a project in such a gorgeous, exotic location is not without its perks. Not only were the clients a pleasure to work with, enthuses Kelly, but “After finishing a hard day’s work installing, it was wonderful to be able to step straight onto the beach for a sunset swim — it truly is a magical place.” 🌴

Design Kelly Hoppen
Website kellyhoppen.com

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A photograph of a modern, two-story house at dusk. The house has large windows and a balcony with glass railings. In the foreground, there is a swimming pool with a glass fence. Two tall, slender cypress trees stand prominently in the background. The sky is a mix of blue and orange from the setting sun. The overall mood is serene and luxurious.

OPULENCE MEETS PRACTICALITY

A luxurious pavilion and sun deck adjoins this family pool creating a spectacular outdoor space

Words Kate Telfer Photography Alex Pritchard

This project features well-manicured gardens for a traditional-luxe feel and multiple outdoor rooms, including an alfresco entertaining area and pavilion





• • •

The shaded pavilion complements the pool by providing a space where the family can relax and marvel at their beautiful surroundings

• • •

Stepping into this dazzling backyard by The Galvin Group, you are greeted by the sparkling pool and water feature sitting beside the lavish pavilion and sun deck. Almost ethereal in its presence, the pool sits as the centrepiece in this place of fun and relaxation that can be enjoyed by the entire family year-round.

The owners requested a landscape design that would express feelings of opulence and spaciousness in their yard while providing a safe and enjoyable area for their young family to enjoy. After comprehensive consultation from design director Alex Pritchard and construction supervision from managing director Rob Galvin, The Galvin Group created this luxurious and modern resort-style backyard, exceeding expectations of beauty and functionality.

Custom exfoliated granite pavers strike a path to the pavilion and pool, with frameless glass fencing providing both safety and visual appeal. Bisazza glass pool mosaics adorn the back-wall water feature, with LED strip lighting bringing the cascade to life at night.

The shaded pavilion complements the pool by providing a space where the family can relax and marvel at their beautiful surroundings. With a storage room for pool equipment and utilities cleverly hidden behind the structure, the area is easily kept clean and tidy. The raised boundary garden bed, lush planting and large grassed area complete the picture, giving the owners the perfect place for their young family to live and play. ➤

ABOVE Exfoliated granite pavers lead the eye through this impressive resort-style backyard

RIGHT This outdoor room is an extension of the home and maintains an opulent style that is beautiful yet practical





Custom exfoliated granite pavers strike a path to the pavilion and pool, with frameless glass fencing providing both safety and visual appeal

The team at The Galvin Group strives to design and build beautiful and luxurious spaces that seamlessly blend from indoors to out. They design and construct all over South Australia, specialising in high-end outdoor living areas, swimming pools, home renovations and new home designs. With more than 30 years of experience, the team has developed expertise, experience and knowledge that great design needs to not only look fantastic, but also be practical and suitable for each client's individual needs. ✨

Design and construction The Galvin Group
Website galvingroup.com.au

ABOVE & RIGHT The poolside pavilion is a luxurious addition to this backyard. It is spectacularly lit at

night with a backlit water feature as well as the incredible feature wall panel in the pavilion



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METAL

Stainless steel and aluminium are the most commonly used metals in the production of outdoor furniture. But don't be fooled, even though these materials are advertised as being low-maintenance, the occasional wash is required and discolouration will most likely occur after prolonged periods of use and exposure to the elements.

When purchasing stainless steel pieces, check with the supplier what grade it is — marine-grade steel would be the ideal option. Aluminium, although it is slightly more expensive, is a great alternative to stainless steel. Lightweight but sturdy, aluminium furniture is available in a range of trendy designs and powder-coated colours.



1. Läckö Shelving Unit made from polyester powder-coated steel, from **IKEA**. [ikea.com](https://www.ikea.com) 2. With an aluminium frame, the Cloud Nine collection designed by Richard Frinier for Brown Jordan, available from **Dune Outdoor Luxuries**, is complemented by an innovative parabolic sling that evenly distributes weight and permits air circulation while providing the user with an intuitive and resilient suspension seating system. duneoutdoorluxuries.com.au 3. Roxö dining table and chairs from **IKEA** has a black polyester powder-coated steel frame. [ikea.com](https://www.ikea.com) 4. MH Cubic collection by Brown Jordan and available from **Dune Outdoor Luxuries**. duneoutdoorluxuries.com.au 5. The Nomad collection by Gloster, available from **Cosh Living**, is a range of powder-coated aluminium dining chairs and tables. coshliving.com.au 6. Chris Johnson's Imprint Collection features a 1mm deep etched design, made from lightweight aluminium. Available from **YOYO**. yoyo.co.nz





TIMBER

The main reason many people choose timber furniture is because of its natural and organic aesthetic. While it does look beautiful, timber also requires the highest maintenance out of all common outdoor materials. The most popular wood varieties are teak, cedar, oak, pine and eucalyptus, all of which have natural oils that protect against decay, harsh weather, high temperatures and humidity. However, splintering, greying and water damage are common problems with timber and it will require re-sanding, oiling and waterproofing — maintenance that many homeowners are hesitant to commit to.

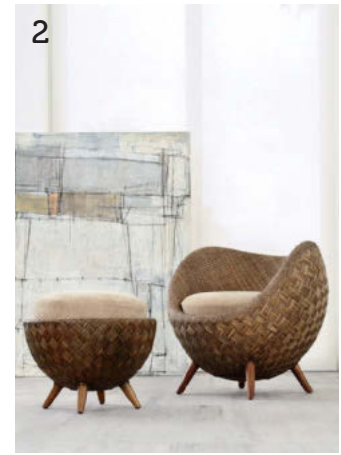


1. Eucalyptus is a strong, durable, eco-friendly wood that requires minimal maintenance. Combined with a wrought iron frame, the Coloma collection by Brown Jordan, available from Dune Outdoor Luxuries, will work well in a casual outdoor setting. duneoutdoorluxuries.com.au 2. Made from plantation teak sourced from Java, the Kos Teak Daybed by Tribu is available from Cosh Living. coshliving.com.au 3. Jati's Seville Extension Table is made from teak. The extension runners need to be cleaned regularly to remove accumulated grime. This can be done using a high-pressure hose and brush. jati.com.au 4. Jati recommends to clean their teak after a night's rain with warm soapy water and a soft-bristled scrubbing brush or Scotchbrite pad to remove most mottled, patchy environmental and man-made stains. Pictured here is the teak Tiera Coffee Table. jati.com.au 5. Made from western red cedar, a durable and lightweight material, the Cedar Deck Chair from Cedar Magic is claimed to require no staining or oiling and no other frequent maintenance. cedarmagic.com.au 6. The Askholmen table and four chairs set and accompanying flower box from IKEA are made from solid acacia, coated in acrylic glaze paint. Maintenance requirements include a regular clean with a mild soapy solution, and reglazing when colour changes and cracks begin to appear. ikea.com

WICKER

Assuming a rather casual, cosy look, wicker refers to the weaving process using materials such as bamboo, rattan or cane. Both versatile and lightweight, the traditional aesthetic of wicker furniture is a natural one. However, with the introduction of woven synthetic materials and resins, wicker now comes in a variety of colours and designs with an even easier maintenance brief.

These synthetic alternatives tend to be the most commonly used in outdoor settings as they are stronger and more durable against moisture and heat. Modern wicker furniture also tends to have an aluminium frame that the wicker is wrapped around to offer an even stronger product that will stand the test of time. Although man made, these synthetic materials are still prone to mildew if in contact with excessive moisture, and splintering if continually left in the sun.



1. The tribal-inspired Icpalli garden lounge chairs and side table from **Go Modern Furniture** are made from synthetic rattan and are claimed to stay cool in the heat, to be dirt repellent, UV-, water- and frost-resistant, and not to rot or fade. gomodern.co.uk
2. Made using rattan, buri, kawayan and abaca, Kenneth Cobonpue's La Luna lounge chair and ottoman are woven in two different weaves to create a contrast of textures. Available from **KE-ZU**. kezu.com.au
3. Kenneth Cobonpue's Calyx Loveseat is made with a steel frame around which polyethylene wicker is woven. Available from **KE-ZU**. kezu.com.au
4. Brown Jordan's Papillon range of outdoor furniture from **Dune Outdoor Luxuries** is made from a bark-coloured resin weave with complementing upholstered cushions. duneoutdoorluxuries.com.au
5. Jati's wicker furniture is made from UV-resistant polypropylene synthetic fibre that can be cleaned using plenty of water and a soft brush. Pictured here is the Madrid armchair and side chair, and Carmen Round Dining Table which utilise a combination of French wicker and curved rattan. jati.com.au
6. The Lagoon Standing Egg Chair from **New Age Outdoor Living** is made with a powder-coated aluminium frame and PE-PVC wicker. newageoutdoors.com.au

GARDEN PARTY

Celebrate in royal style with these elegant furniture pieces that are fit for a Queen



1. Whether you pot it with your favourite plant, use it to store the champagne or fill it with other goodies, the Luxembourg Wooden Vase by **French Heritage** has a royal presence about it that would suit this outdoor theme perfectly. frenchheritage.com 2. With a wrought iron sculpted base and marble top finish, the Garden Party coffee table by **French Heritage** displays an elegant and delicate flower motif and will be the ideal gathering place for your guests. frenchheritage.com 3. With a gorgeous, chequered wrought iron frame, the Versailles armchair and side chair by Manutti, available from **Cosh Living**, offer a chic, minimal alternative for this style of outdoor furniture. coshliving.com.au 4. The Elegance collection by Brown Jordan, available from **Dune Outdoor Luxuries**, references 18th-century French design with stately and open lattice decorative elements in welded and polished sand-cast aluminium. duneoutdoorluxuries.com.au 5. The Abigail Blue Iron Chair from **Kush Living** is rustic yet dainty, offering a pop of colour to your outdoor space. kushliving.com.au 6. If you love the delicate nature of the French style but are looking for something slightly more contemporary, the Nodo dining chair and table from **Myface** is made from gold-plated stainless steel and is an extremely glamorous alternative. myface.com.pt

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

Fill your outdoors with vibrant colours and family-friendly pieces for a playful summer under the sun



1. Enjoyed by both young and old, the Highflyer Swing by **Anaesthetic** has a shape inspired by that of a vintage aeroplane, complemented by the beautiful timber seat and double-braided rope. anaestheticdesign.com
 2. A place for them to escape to their own magical world, a cubby house is the ultimate outdoor toy for children. Keeping them amused forever, **Tarmak Kids'** cubby houses are made from Australian and New Zealand pine, designed and constructed in Australia by parents, Dean and Kelly. tarmakkids.com.au
 3. & 4. Plastic is an ideal material for households with small children due to its durability, easy maintenance and lack of sharp edges. Plastic outdoor furniture also comes in various fun, vibrant colours and designs such as the IKEA PS Vago Easy Chair in yellow and the Mammut collection of children's furniture, also available from IKEA. ikea.com
 5. Lightweight, portable and stackable, Fedro designed by Lorenza Bozzoli for Dedon was inspired by Lorenza's son who would play video games whilst balancing on an old chair that had no legs. The finished, bird-like shape of the Fedro also inspired the colourful, woven finish. Available from **Cult**. cultdesign.com.au
 6. Encourage the kids to dine and play outdoors with their very own table, such as the Kids Picnic Table from **Down That Little Lane**. Ideally suited for children from 18 months to eight years old, the table is coloured and stained in weather-resistant paints and stains, so it will be easy to clean off food, pen marks and anything else that the young ones manage to find. downthatlittellane.com.au



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SKY HIGH STYLE

From plain to paradise, this transformation proves that when it comes to balconies, the sky's the limit

Words Tom Lockley Photography Natalie Hunfalvay

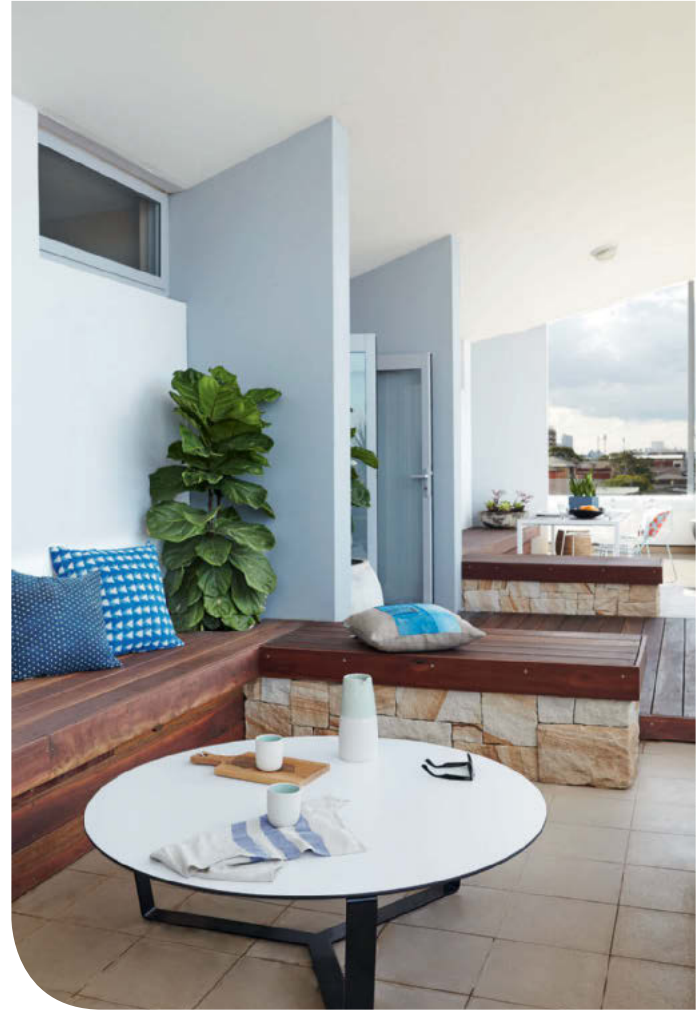


The entranceway to the balcony includes a large sandstone step, hardwood timber deck, and three pots at the end of the decking that are planted with Buxus balls and Dichondra 'Silver Falls'





While the style is quite
contemporary, it is also
very warm and inviting



Amid the bustling streets of Sydney, atop a modern unit block, sits a balcony unlike any other. Josh Harrison of Harrison's Landscaping has transformed an empty concrete balcony into an inviting, versatile outdoor space that encourages both relaxation and entertainment.

"I was asked to create a lush, stylish entertaining space with both dining and lounging areas that was inviting and would be used to soften the vast amounts of plain concrete and boring floor tiles," says Josh.

The balcony is wrapped around the north-east corner of the building, allowing for spectacular morning sunlight and uninterrupted views of Randwick Racecourse. The style of this space needed to suit the social appetite of the clients while still celebrating the breathtaking view and visual openness of the angled roof.

"I love the contrast between the bench seats and the balcony itself, I think it's a great example of effective balcony/rooftop garden design," says Josh. The natural element combination of sandstone, potted plants and hardwood timber used throughout the balcony invites the homeowners to unwind by creating a tranquil and comfortable atmosphere that contrasts with the busy city below. As Josh explains: "Even though you look out towards the city, it's a very relaxing place to be."



The minimalist styling of the balcony garden is designed to draw nothing away from the magnificent view





"Just because our clients live six floors above the street shouldn't stop them from enjoying the benefits of a beautifully designed garden balcony" – Josh Harrison

Constructing the six-storey-high balcony garden proved challenging once it came time to transport the materials up. "We had to pre-cut the lengths of timber so they would fit in the lift. Two guys were going up and down the lift carting materials for three straight days just to get everything up there," says Josh. "Just because our clients live six floors above the street shouldn't stop them from enjoying the benefits of a beautifully designed garden balcony."

Following the brief, Josh designed two specific focus areas on the balcony: lounge and dining. "These areas are separated by a raised, hardwood timber deck," says Josh, who adds "the deck creates the transition from inside the unit to out on the balcony". The deck is complemented by a sandstone step surrounded by pebbles masking the deck's edge, creating a seamless, organic entrance onto the balcony.

The lounge area consists of two hardwood timber benches clad with sandstone that are strategically placed to enclose the coffee table in an open-plan lounge. The L-shaped bench that runs along the wall and deck includes a sunken planter, which houses a fiddle leaf fig plant, chosen for its unusual foliage and effective ability to soften the look of the concrete wall behind.

At the far end of the lounging area are three yuccas planted in lightweight cube pots as well as a large water bowl with lilies in it. The plants chosen needed to be durable and able to prosper in harsher conditions than normal. "The conditions up on the

balcony were completely different to those on the ground, as it's often windier, drier and hotter. We chose plants that would thrive in these conditions and be able to handle a bit of neglect," explains Josh.

At the opposite end of the balcony is a second hardwood, L-shaped bench seat with a sunken planter that looks out towards Randwick Racecourse and is used to enclose the dining area. For night-time dining and entertaining, the bench seat includes low-voltage lighting to accentuate the seating and dining area without drawing attention from the view. The balcony edge connected to the dining area is left open with plenty of standing space.

The balcony design sits low to the ground and fits neatly beneath the glass screen of the balcony edge. This low-lying design gives added privacy from the ground, while adding to the illusion of space when combined with the angled rooftop. Josh's use of organic elements in both the dining and lounge area maintains a level of modern sophistication while still creating a homely and relaxed feeling. "While the style is quite contemporary, it is also very warm and inviting. We didn't want the design to be too serious or formal as it wouldn't have suited our clients, and; most importantly, the way they planned to use the space," says Josh. ✨

Design and construction Harrison's Landscaping
Website harrisonslandscaping.com.au

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SUBURBAN SANCTUARY

From the raised pavilion to the spacious
pool, this garden is made for entertaining

Words Karen Booth Photography Patrick Redmond





The rear garden of this home in the suburbs of Melbourne conceals a truly wonderful surprise: a one-of-a-kind alfresco haven offering everything the family needs to entertain in comfort and style — a new swimming pool and spa; a chic covered pavilion with seating and a cosy fireplace; a conservatory attached to the back of the house; and an outdoor cooking area.

The goal of the award-winning designer, Don Thompson of Gardenridge, was to create a strong indoor-outdoor connection. The glass conservatory brings the outside into the home, while the raised pavilion behind the pool introduces elements normally associated with interior living spaces into the outdoor environment. The pavilion has a strong outdoor-room feel thanks to the decor and design features. The wood-burning open fireplace is set within a brick surround with a mantel, and a framed mirror hangs from the wall above it. There is a contemporary light-fitting, just like one you would expect to find in an interior lounge room, a rug on the floor, scatter cushions on the benches to add designer flair and comfort to the seating, and floor cushions.

The granite paving provides a sophisticated touch and works in tandem with the spotted gum timber decking and bench seating to provide the perfect backdrop for the vibrant colour accents. These are introduced through accessories such as the bright red pots and the authentic lifesaver's chair, which adds a fun, quirky element to an otherwise extremely elegant design.

To blur the boundaries and make the garden feel a little bigger, the fences were painted dark grey (Colorbond Woodland Grey). ➤



ABOVE A water feature adds the soothing sound of water in motion. Pots inject colour

RIGHT While this is clearly an outdoor room, the decor gives the impression of a well-designed interior entertaining space







A one-of-a-kind alfresco haven offering everything the family needs to entertain in comfort and style



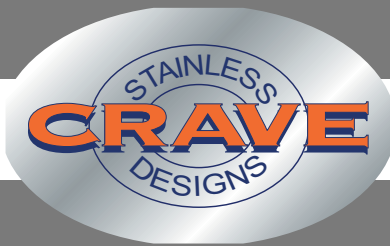
TOP Referencing the wood-burning fireplace, sawn logs have been used to create a distinctive back wall for the elevated pavilion

This makes them almost disappear from view behind the foliage and gives the impression of a green-wrapped outdoor sanctuary.

To keep maintenance to a minimum, only small areas of lawn were included in the design (catering to the needs of the children and the family dog) and the planting palette emphasises hardy plants with interesting foliage and contrasting textures. This includes cycads, New Zealand flax, black bamboo and black mondo grass.

Although the garden resides in the heart of suburbia, the lush planting, elegant pool and beautifully designed outdoor pavilion give the impression of a much grander location. It doesn't really matter whether you're hosting a party or relaxing by the fire with a good book, you feel like you're in the lap of luxury. There is even a water feature at the side of the conservatory to muffle the sounds of neighbourhood activity and to create a peaceful ambience that can be enjoyed day and night. ❄️

Landscape design Gardenridge
Website gardenridge.com.au



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FULLY EQUIPPED

Alfresco kitchens are becoming just as important as their indoor counterparts so here's what to consider when creating your own outdoor culinary oasis





BARBECUE BASICS

Here's an expert guide to creating your own modern outdoor kitchen

These days, a modern outdoor kitchen means more than a barbecue and an Esky full of drinks. While the barbecue is still the central feature, an increasing trend in Australia is the demand for a fully functioning outdoor kitchen that includes a fridge, sink, built-in barbecue and plenty of storage space, all in an undercover entertainment space.

"With the popularity of the Aussie barbecue on the rise, and people becoming increasingly keen to replicate restaurant-quality food at home, we are seeing a growing demand for outdoor kitchen spaces that match the quality, performance and design of their indoor counterparts," says Peter Woodland, managing director at BeefEater Barbecues. "Creating an outdoor kitchen in your own home doesn't have to be limited to

property owners. These days there are lots of options available to renters and homeowners alike to create a functional space that's easy to build in, or take with you when you go."

When looking to set up your own outdoor culinary oasis, Peter advises to consider the following:

- + **Quality** — if you love to entertain and are a frequent barbecuer, be sure to invest in a high-quality barbecue that's not only guaranteed to last, but certain to deliver superior cooking results every time. Look for stainless steel and porcelain enamel — high-grade materials built to withstand high cooking temperatures, oil and fat.
- + **Back to basics** — an outdoor kitchen should be as important as your inside one. Along with picking the right barbecue and benchtop, plan for storage and organisational necessities



BBQ LAMB CUTLETS WITH SALSA VERDE

Ingredients

8 Frenched lamb cutlets

Salsa Verde

1 thick slice of stale bread

300ml olive oil

2 garlic cloves

1 tbs capers

2 anchovies (chopped)

1 tbs lemon juice

½ bunch chopped parsley

½ bunch chopped mint

½ bunch chopped coriander

salt and pepper

Method

1. Moisten bread with olive oil and combine in food processor with salsa verde ingredients, drizzle with olive oil, then set aside.
2. Heat barbecue on high for 10 minutes.
3. Add lamb to basting tray, drizzle with salsa verde oil and season well with salt and pepper on all sides.
4. Turn barbecue down to about half and cook on first side for 1.5 minutes.
5. Turn cutlets raw side up to form a criss-cross on the surface.
6. When you see the lamb start to 'sweat' blood droplets, turn it over and seal for 1 minute. Remove lamb and rest for 4 minutes.
7. To serve, add the lamb cutlets back to the barbecue for 30 seconds per side and add to serving tray
8. Add a scoop of salsa verde to lamb and serve immediately.

such as a condiments drawers and rubbish bins. Avoid the need to go between your two kitchens to wash your hands or salad items with a small-sized bar sink.

- + **Magic minis** — outdoor kitchens don't have to hold enough food and beverages to feed a crowd for a week. Opt for space-saving appliances such as a bar fridge to keep your beverages cool and your guests happy.
- + **Build to last** — when building an outdoor kitchen, choose materials that won't deteriorate over time. Granite and stainless steel not only look great, they are also easy to clean and will withstand the harsh Australian climate.
- + **Light up** — there's nothing more frustrating than not being able to see whether the steak's done. BeefEater barbecues feature a glass window within the roasting hood to help you get the steak perfect, every time. Lighting plays an essential role so when designing your space, be sure to incorporate extra lighting into your roof. beefeaterbbq.com

Creating an outdoor
kitchen in your own home
doesn't have to be limited to
property owners

A CLOSER LOOK

Consider these elements for your outdoor design



FLEXIBILITY ◀

Popular choices among those renting and property owners who are short on space are the free-standing options such as Cosh Living's Indu Duo barbecue. Not an ordinary barbecue, the Indu Duo has modular induction hobs, extendable chopping boards on either side of the cooktop and a trolley with storage for pots, pans, utensils and ingredients. Also with wheels, the Indu Duo and other free-standing options offer a flexible alternative for outdoor cooking due to their mobility and ease of use. coshliving.com.au

▶ MATERIALS

In an outdoor kitchen, the materials used need to be resistant to various elements including weather, mould and staining. Stainless steel has traditionally been the material of choice for many barbecue and kitchen designs. However, the growing trend in creating a liveable space in the backyard is producing a demand for alternative options that are more sleek and stylish. Surfaces such as granite and acrylic allow for a diversity of colours and designs, and also provide the appropriate qualities for an outdoor environment.

MyAlfresco offers its customers Alucomp – a panel consisting of aluminium layers with a polyethylene core – and Staron solid surfaces. Pictured here is an outdoor kitchen installed by MyAlfresco with gloss white cabinetry and benchtop that contrasts beautifully with the stainless steel built-in barbecue. myalfresco.com



STORAGE ◀

Just as important as it is in your indoor kitchen, storage will determine the functionality of your outdoor cooking area. The combination of the extent of your outdoor cooking, how often you will use the space, and what facilities you have installed, will give a good indication of the sort of storage you will require. Drawers and cabinetry are a must, however you could consider adding more or less, depending on your needs. Pictured here is The Collaroy from Lifestyle Barbeques with a side burner and Sinktop, two cabinets, one drawer and centre cabinet with tilt-lift door. lifestylebbqs.com

**CELLAR** ◀

Wine lovers might want to consider a designated wine cellar for your outdoor alfresco area. Acting as both storage and a statement piece, Spiral Cellars' Garden Cellar has a weatherproof external trap door, and holds 24 standard claret bottles with room for other entertaining or gardening needs, such as extra chairs, outdoor tableware, shovels and rakes. spiralcellars.co.uk

ALL IN ONE ▶

How you plan to use your outdoor kitchen and how often you'll use it will determine the size of your barbecue and whether you will require any extra appliances, such as side burners or even an oven. An Australian-made unit with steel hotplates, ribbon burner and optional roasting hood is a sound option as it offers all you need to cook everything from roasts to pizzas, seafood and steaks. However, if you are an avid outdoor cook, an in-built oven could be a great way to keep food warm, and also allow you to cook every element of the meal in your outdoor kitchen, including roast vegetables and even desert. Pictured here is Heatlie's Gourmet Elite model. heatlie.com.au

**WOOD OVENS** ◀

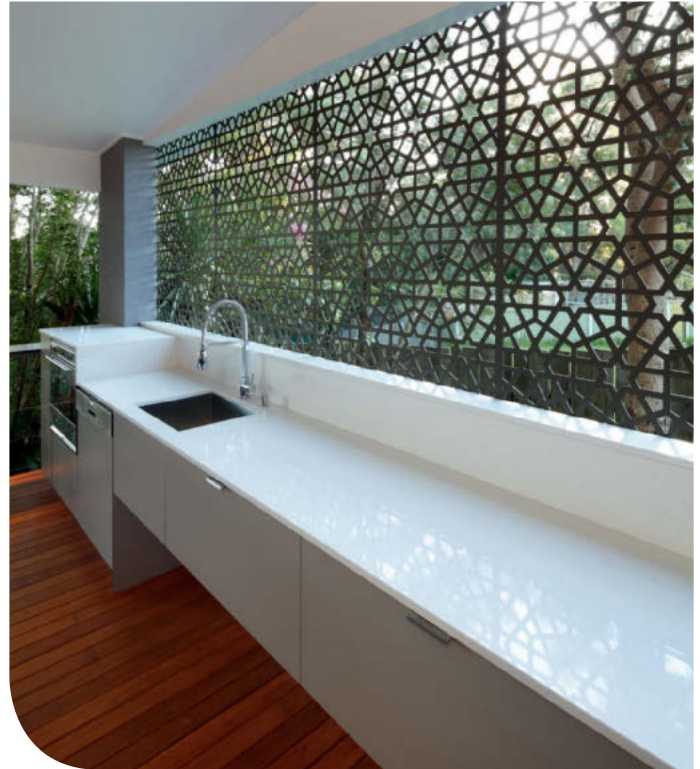
A centrepiece for your outdoor kitchen as well as a complement to the trusty barbecue, a contemporary pizza oven can be powered either by wood fire or LPG gas. Not just for pizzas, the oven is also great for roasting, giving your food that gorgeous smoky flavour. A stunning feature of this extravagant outdoor kitchen designed by Dean Herald of Rolling Stone Landscapes, this wood-fired pizza oven will also warm up this outdoor room during the cooler months. Photography by Natalie Hunfalvay Photography. rollingstonelandscapes.com

**COMPACT DESIGN** ^

Let's face it, not all of us have huge exterior spaces that can incorporate a five-burner barbecue, wood-fired oven, bar fridges and integrated dishwasher — but no Aussie home should be deprived of a barbecue. Designed by Franklin Landscape & Design, this small outdoor space in Prahran, Melbourne has become a functional oasis with a minimally designed built-in barbecue. Centring the space with a dining table has resulted in an efficient and practical outdoor room that can be enjoyed by kids playing in the pool, adults gossiping around the table and the cook whipping up a storm on the barbie. franklinld.com

**BAR FRIDGE** ^

A must-have in an entertainer's outdoor living area, bar fridges will keep your snacks cool and your drinks cooler. Classed as a bonus extra for most people, I say that if you have the space to install at least one bar fridge, you should. This outdoor entertainer's paradise was designed by Interiors by Darren James and has been fitted with all the mod-cons including a slimline Electrolux barbecue and wok, Caesarstone benchtops and three stunning, backlit Vintec bar fridges. interiorsbydarrenjames.com.au

**SINK AND MIXER** ^

Not the most enjoyable part of the cooking process, the cleaning up still needs to be done. Instead of carting all the pans, plates and glasses indoors, why not consider installing a sink and mixer into your outdoor kitchen space? Not only is it ideal during the cleaning up process, you will also be able to clean utensils and other servingware as you go. An extendable sink mixer is also ideal for this setting as you will need to wash large pieces that will also be quite greasy. This outdoor kitchen by Concepts by Gavin Hepper even has an integrated dishwasher — genius! conceptsbygavinhepper.com.au



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IT'S ONLY NATURAL

A unique garden boasting naturalistic plantings and
a repurposed shipping container

Words Karen Booth Photography Patrick Redmond

The conversion of this shipping container shows how simple it is to repurpose objects and materials





● ● ●

**A naturalistic perennial
planting palette can
complement and enhance any
style of garden**

● ● ●

This plant-filled show garden amply demonstrated how “leftover” spaces in a city can be transformed into attractive and functional green pockets. Aptly named *Left Overs*, the Ian Barker Gardens creation featured a converted shipping container that functioned as a pop-up cafe, which, in a real-world setting, could work as either a temporary or permanent commercial installation or as an unusual outdoor room in a large backyard.

The container-cafe opened out onto paved areas, small groups of seating and lawn, all of which were surrounded by a cornucopia of plants to create an inviting place for people to meet and socialise.

Left Overs, which won a Silver Show Garden Award at this year’s Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show, featured a highly naturalistic perennial planting scheme to show new ways of using plants in an urban context. The goal of the planting, which included *Echinacea purpurea* ‘Alba’, *Helenium* ‘Dark Beauty’, *Cosmos* ‘Chocoholic’, *Achillea* ‘Terracotta’ and *Geum* ‘Blazing Sunset’, was to make the garden feel like an urban oasis where people could soak in nature, even if they were in the midst of a bustling and fast-paced city.

“With naturalistic perennial planting becoming more popular due to the way it encourages people to make an emotional connection to nature, many home gardeners are beginning to ask, ‘How can we achieve this look in our own backyards?’ This is not surprising, as after all, who wouldn’t want their own



A cosy spot for reading, drinking
a cuppa and simply enjoying the
cornucopia of plants all around





ABOVE This stunning garden is a testament to the power of naturalistic perennial planting and recycling

RIGHT *Echinacea purpurea* 'Alba', with its daisy-like flowers, was one of several perennial plants on show



personal oasis to escape the stresses of everyday life," says Sally Plottel, marketing manager at Ian Barker Gardens.

"Naturalistic planting can be adapted for any sized garden, from a large rural property to a suburban backyard — even a small courtyard or balcony. It is not only beautiful to look at, bringing enjoyment and satisfaction as the garden evolves over the seasons, but it is also relatively low maintenance.

"There are various systems of planting design that can be employed to achieve the overall effect," continues Sally, "such as intermingled, matrix and scatter planting. There is also the 'planting by numbers' method. For example, in our 2014 show garden, *Left Overs*, we used a mixture of intermingled, matrix and scatter planting to produce the end result."

And by using a converted shipping container as the shell for the cafe, Ian Barker Gardens showed how found or unwanted objects and materials can be recycled and integrated into the design of a new space. Creating a new green pocket in a city — or creating a backyard for that matter — doesn't have to be about completely transforming a space. It can be about working with what is already there, reintroducing what existed in the past and combining this with new design elements.

This garden also showed how a naturalistic perennial planting palette can complement and enhance any style of garden or structure. Explains Sally: "It's a good idea to start with a key

plant that will inspire the rest of the colours in your garden and establish a cohesive palette. In our garden *Left Overs*, the key plant was *Coreopsis* 'Rum Punch', which starts off yellow in the centre and graduates to burgundy on the outer edges. From there, we chose plants that complemented these colours, with the overall palette becoming warm and autumnal. Don't overthink your colour choices, simply look to nature. It will tell you what colours work together in harmony." ❀

Landscape design and construction Ian Barker Gardens
Website landscape.net.au



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Glass pool fencing allows for uninterrupted visual flow between the home and the outdoor area

CONTEMPORARY HAVEN

Water feature, pool and pergola seamlessly
blend together in this backyard



It's a simple style but with big impact, elevating the backyard to a multi-use space with a resort-like feel, perfect as a seating area, a spot to dip your feet in the pool and for taking in the view – it also raises the bar for contemporary pool design



TOP The unique water feature enhances the modern style of the outdoor design and is particularly beautiful lit up at night

This stunning backyard pool built by Majestic Pools and Landscapes flawlessly ties in with the design of the home and landscape. The pool and adjoining pergola create a place to swim and relax, but are also a feature of the home.

The landscaping around the pool ties in beautifully with the established greenery in the backyard, making this new addition appear as though it's a natural part of the landscape.

The use of shrubbery gives the pool a more private feeling, capturing the ambience of a private piece of island paradise, despite being in suburbia.

An essential part of the design is the glass fencing that separates the pool from the yard. It serves as a crucial barrier but doesn't stunt the size of the yard by blocking off the pool section, as other fencing might. Being able to see the pool is important as it opens the yard and serves as a great feature piece from the house's windows.

This pool and adjoining pergola is not only a place to swim and relax, but also a feature of the home

BELOW The contemporary pergola structure is a standout feature of the backyard, taking the design of this pool area to a new level

RIGHT Lush foliage surrounds the outdoor room and pool and the overall look and feel is one of a private escape

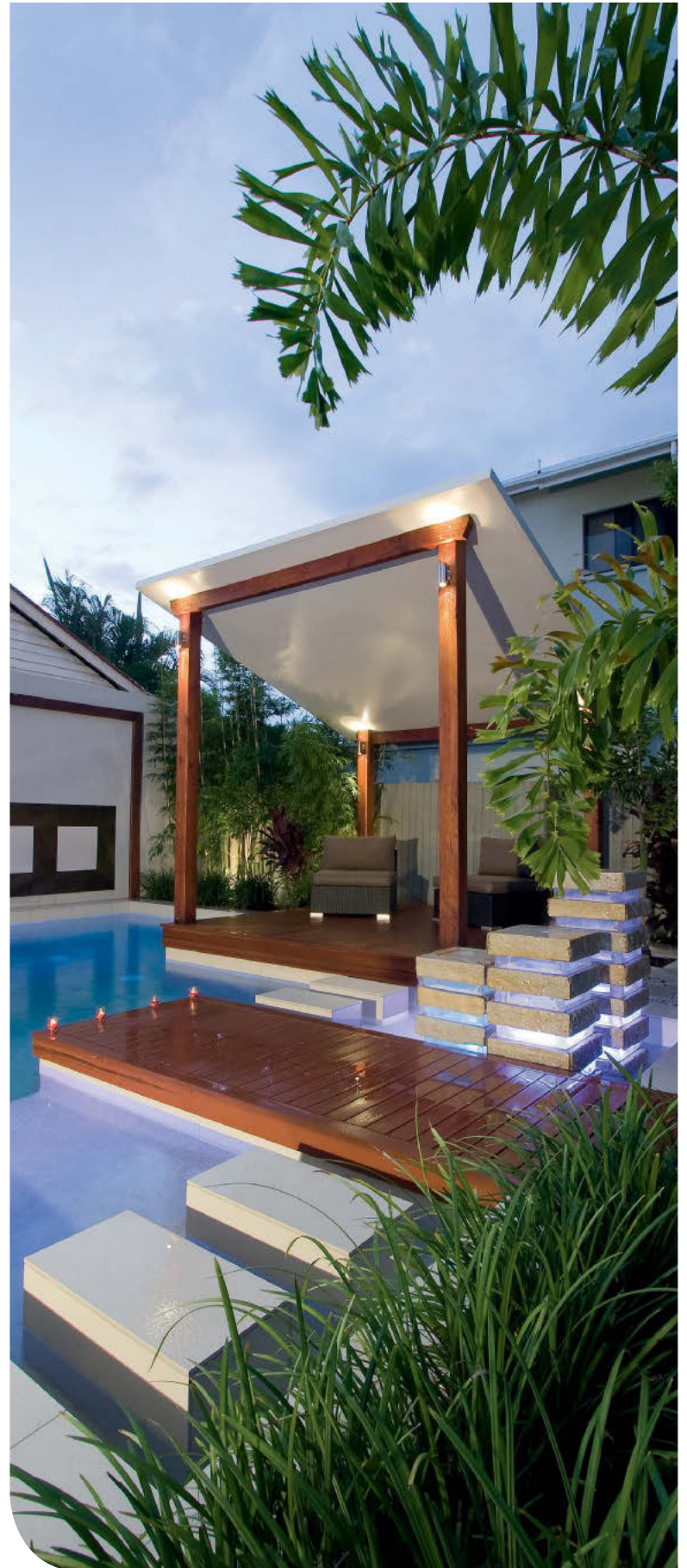


The inset pergola at the back of the pool is what makes this design work so well. It's a simple style but with big impact, elevating the backyard to a multi-use space with a resort-like feel, perfect as a seating area, a spot to dip your feet in the pool and for taking in the view — it also raises the bar for contemporary pool design.

Another outstanding feature is the water fountain. Positioned in a shallow corner of the pool, it has three multi-tiered pillars. These pillars are layered with slabbed stone and glass with interior lights. The water lightly cascades around the pillars, creating a beautiful sheen of ever-flowing water. During the evening, the fountain pillars look even more spectacular as the interior lighting makes the water glow.

The use of light-coloured paving and stepping stones with the darker wooden pier and pergola create a nice juxtaposition in the colour scheme — the same colour scheme that's used for the covered outdoor entertaining space built off the house. This project is a little piece of paradise, wonderfully designed. 🌿

Design Majestic Pools and Landscapes
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Serious Barbecues



Image courtesy of Patio Living

THE FINAL TOUCHES

Paints and stains are your home's protective shield against the elements. Ensuring your exterior paint and decking will stand the test of time while continuing to look fabulous will depend on preparation of the surface and application. In this issue, experts share their advice and we hunt down some of the best finishes for your home



SHIELD APPEAL

Tim Orbell from Tenaru Timber & Finishes shares his insights and expertise in the field of finishes

When it comes to decking, the key to achieving a professional looking result is a well-prepared surface. Ensure that the timber is well-seasoned, free from natural extractives (tannin) and clean.



NEW DECKS

The most important step for homeowners installing a new deck is thorough seasoning. Seasoning is a natural weathering process that can take between three to six months. During this time, the new timber releases its natural extractives (tannins) which appear as a dark-coloured run-off.

Many people assume that decking timber does not need to be seasoned because it is kiln-dried during the manufacturing process, but this is not the case. Proper seasoning is particularly important for oily, tannin-rich timbers such as merbau, which have become a very popular choice for decking in recent years.

Coating unseasoned timber results in the premature breakdown of the applied coating and within a short space of time will leave discolouration and staining under the coated surface.

If you need to complete the deck in a shorter time frame, a tannin and oil remover can be applied first which will extract the majority of tannins in a matter of minutes.

EXISTING DECKS

For established decks the primary concern is ensuring the timber is clean and free from dirt and grime. Thorough cleaning with a deck and wood cleaner will not only rejuvenate the old decking by drawing out dirt and grime, but allows the new

coating to properly penetrate and adhere to the timber for long-lasting protection.

If the deck is in bad condition, it may be necessary to strip back and sand the surface before recoating. Signs a deck may need to be recoated include peeling, flaking, discolouration, mould growth or greying of the timber surface.

Any areas affected by mould or mildew must be properly treated before recoating, otherwise mould will continue to grow underneath the fresh paintwork.

CHOOSING A COATING

Timber is a porous material and should always be coated after cleaning to protect the surface from dirt, grime, UV damage and moisture. Whether oil- or water-based, always choose the best timber coating you can afford.

A quality coating will last much longer (up to two years) than cheap decking oils, which may need to be applied every few months to keep the timber looking its best.

CLEANING AND COATING TOOLS

A pressure washer is ideal for cleaning hardwood decks such as ironbark, merbau and blackbutt (pressure washers are not recommended for use on softwood). Otherwise, a good hard-bristle brush works well to remove stubborn dirt and grime.

When coating a freshly cleaned deck, use a pure-bristle brush for a smooth, even finish. Applicator pads and paint rollers are not ideal for coating timber as they can apply the product unevenly. Additionally, rollers can aerate the timber coating, causing air bubbles that will leave 'pock-marks' once the coating has cured.

For more information visit sikkens.net.au

TAKE NOTE

You can also revitalise your timber garden furniture with an oil or stain. Use Sikkens Cetol BL Garden Furniture Cleaner to draw out the dirt and grime, then coat with Sikkens Cetol HLSe to protect it from future weathering



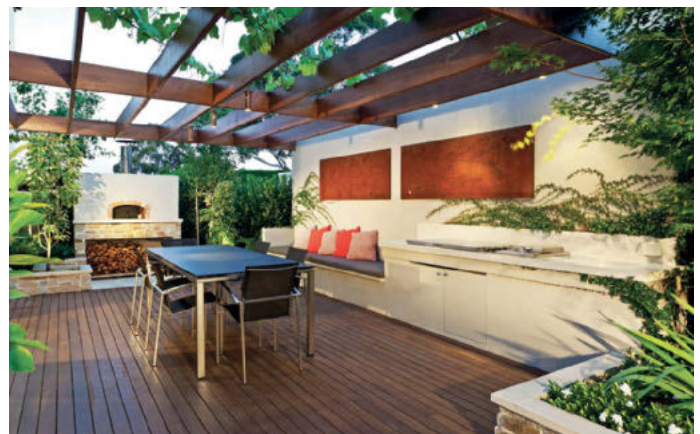
Image courtesy of To The Mil. Photography by Simon Wood

TIPS FOR PAINTING EXTERIOR SURFACES

Good surface preparation and the paint or coating will adhere easily and result in a smooth finish. Haymes' paint experts share their tips



ABOVE Image courtesy of Harrison's Landscaping. Photography by Natalie Hunfalvay. harrisonslandscaping.com.au



RIGHT Image courtesy of Ian Barker Garden Design. landscape.net.au



- + Check any existing paint to make sure that it is suitable for painting by cutting an 'X' in the surface with a sharp knife. Press tape firmly over the 'X' and pull it off. If any existing paint is removed it means that the surface is not suitable for painting and will need to be removed by scraping and sanding.
- + Thoroughly wash away any dirt, dust and mould as the presence of contaminants on the surface can cause loss of adhesion of the new paint system. The easiest way to clean the area ready for painting is by pressure-washing the surface. Hosing the surface with a garden hose really isn't enough; a powered pressure wash unit does a much better job.
- + Do not paint if rain or dew is expected within 24 hours.
- + Sand any remaining chalky surfaces to remove all chalk.
- + Use a high quality acrylic exterior paint. High quality paints last much longer than cheaper paints and are the best way of protecting your most valuable asset. Acrylic paints have high UV-resistance and last longer than solvent-based enamel paints.
- + Paint in the shade. The paint will be much easier to apply if you paint in the shade, painting in the sun causes the paint to dry too quickly, making application difficult.
- + Avoid painting in very windy conditions. Wind dries paint very quickly, making it difficult to apply. The wind can also deposit lots of dust onto your new paint surface, making it look dirty.
- + Start on the wall areas and finish with the trims.
- + Stand back and enjoy the rewards.

TAKE YOUR PICK

Here's a range of useful products in the market today



1. Feast Watson Wet Look Deck provides a timber finish that has a long lasting, freshly coated 'wet look'. The finish is a low-odour, water-based product, which is suitable for decking, fences, steps, walkways, pergolas, furniture and all other exterior timber. feastwatson.com.au 2. Intergrain PowerPrep used in combination with Intergrain Reviva will now enable immediate coating of new bare timber. The specially formulated Intergrain PowerPrep quickly draws out tannins and oils, removing them from the timber surface, while Intergrain Reviva, a natural acid-based timber cleaner, will then clean the timber and prepare it for immediate coating. intergrain.com.au 3. Pictured here is Sikkens Cetol transparent finish, Sikkens Cetol HLSe and Sikkens Ezee Deck Brush. Sikkens is owned and manufactured by AkzoNobel, a global paint and coatings company based in Amsterdam. Available in Australia since 1974, Sikkens' specially developed formulas provide transparent, high quality finishes that enhance the natural beauty of timber while protecting it from the harsh Australian climate. sikkens.net.au 4. Intergrain has two different formulas — UltraDeck and NaturalStain — for outdoor timber and decking, whether you prefer a natural finish or want to transform the colour of your deck. The water-based oil penetrates the timber and significantly outlasts conventional oils in resistance to UV, water and abrasion. These products combine the latest innovations in timber-finishing technologies that are environmentally friendly, without compromising on quality. intergrain.com.au 5. Britain's oldest family-owned-and-run paint and polishes manufacturer, Mylands Exterior Masonry's paint is specially developed for use outdoors on walls, brickwork and render. The paint is low in VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds), hard-wearing, weatherproof and mildew-resistant. It also resists fading, cracking, peeling and dirt pick-up. Available to be shipped to Australia. mylands.co.uk 6. Dulux Weathershield is a very popular product among homeowners and industry professionals due to its renowned durability. Promising complete protection from wind, rain, sun, snow, hail, temperature and humidity, Dulux Weathershield is a great product for residential applications. Dulux also offer 'Effects' paints, such as the Dulux Texture Tuscan Effects Exterior Paint that will provide the soft-washed look of traditional Mediterranean homes. dulux.com.au 7. Originally developed as exterior performance paints, Rockcote's EcoStyle is GECA-certified and non-toxic, ideal for multiple-chemical sensitivity (MCS) sufferers, with low-odour, excellent adhesion, resistance to stains, dirt, mould, mildew and fungi, plus they are available in an unlimited colour range. rockcote.com.au

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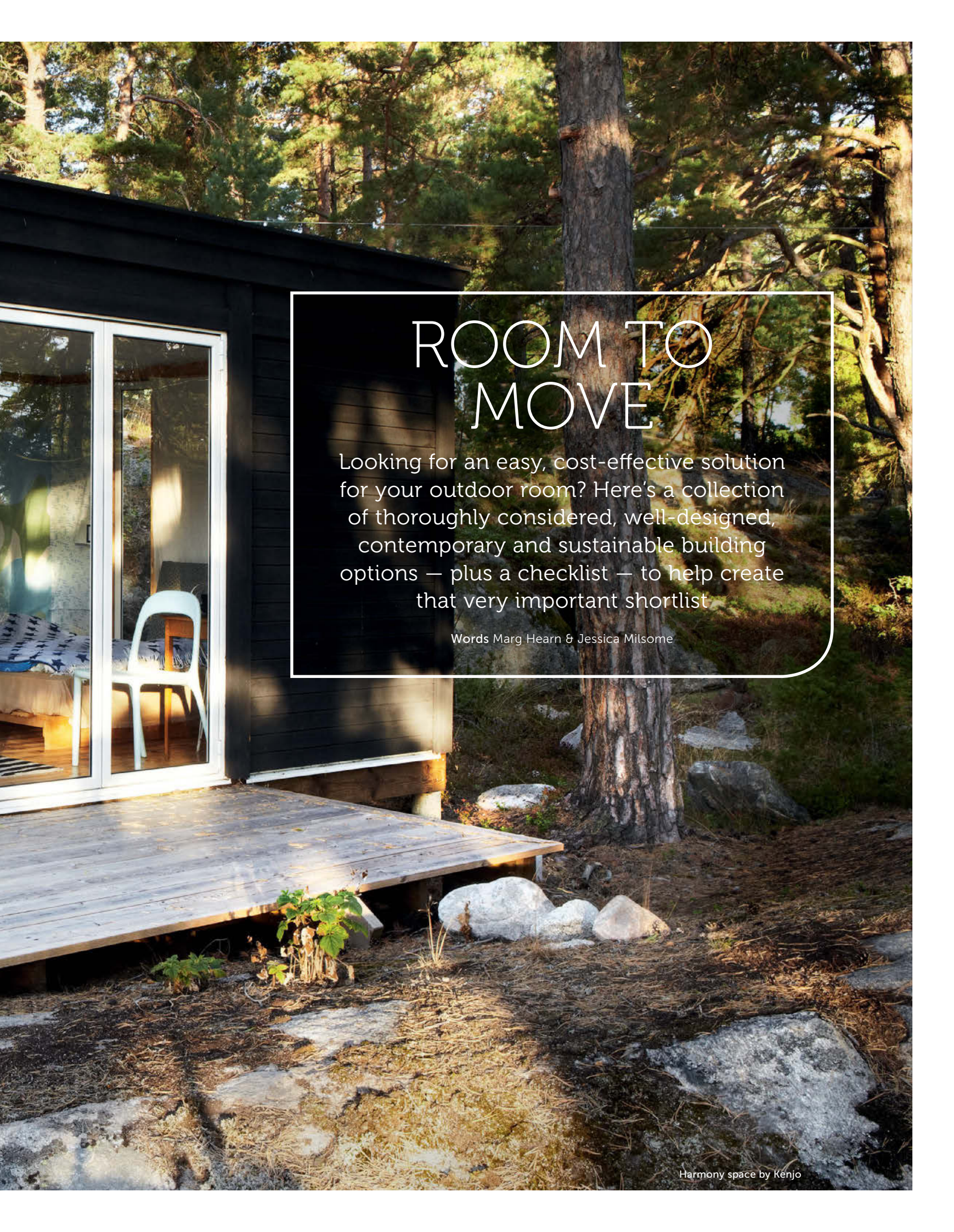
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ROOM TO MOVE

Looking for an easy, cost-effective solution for your outdoor room? Here's a collection of thoroughly considered, well-designed, contemporary and sustainable building options — plus a checklist — to help create that very important shortlist

Words Marg Hearn & Jessica Milsome



A prefabricated building — one that is constructed mostly in a factory off-site — offers homeowners a definite cost structure and a known time frame that is faster than on-site traditional building methods. The process is often more cost-effective and has become increasingly popular, as can be seen in the expanded and innovative range of prefab solutions that have recently become available in Australia.

Common elements include sustainable construction methods, waste minimisation, low transport miles, eco-friendly materials, minimal site impact, orientation for northern aspect, natural light, shade, cross ventilation, and effective use of space.

ABOVE West End Beach house deck by Ecoshelta. Photography by Tim Dub

RIGHT Hong Kong garden pavilion e.pod by Ecoshelta

Ecoshelta is made from marine-grade structural aluminium alloy framing that is stronger but lighter than steel. Designed by architect Stephen Sainsbury and manufactured by Wonders Building Company Pty Ltd, Ecoshelta has been used for backyard studios, holiday or residential homes, emergency relief housing, remote-area research stations, walking lodges, ecotourism resorts, ultra-remote housing, and cliff-face construction during the past 20 years. Sustainable design measures include an EcoCost environmental impact evaluation system analysis; a high level of wool insulation for all floors, walls and ceiling panels; plantation timber, recycled PET composite timber substitutes or ECOply and passive solar and natural ventilation design. Ecoshelta is fully modular, extremely strong and robust. ecoshelta.com







PAGE 90-91 **Kenjo** System AB, in Sweden, is highly versatile. Harmony is built entirely from Swedish spruce, a local and renewable resource. Foldable glass sliding door systems set in aluminium profiles reinforce Kent Johansson's design intent of an openness in look, feel and use, whether for offices, saunas, pool houses, or perhaps a floating guest house or thinking room. The options are unlimited as the module system uses different-sized glulam frames, different wall sections and roofs. Energy-efficient, customisable, connectable and extendable, Harmony is attracting global interest. There's a choice of DIY assembly on delivery; supply fully assembled; or built on-site by Kenjo carpenters. kenjo.se

Transportable Space is available in five different sizes (10sqm up to 32sqm). Designed and manufactured by Pluscreate in Melbourne, modules are delivered flat-packed around eight weeks after design sign-off. Parts can be carried through a standard doorway and assembled without tradespeople. Height-adjustable legs avoid the need for excavation. The butterfly roof with box gutter provides excellent water catchment for water tanks, and there is a choice of window and door placements with optional skylights and decks. Its well-insulated PIR wall panels and steel components are recyclable. Available Australia-wide and cyclone-rated, application is unlimited. ts1now.com.au



Container Homes has an easy solution to prefabs: pre-packaged is best. Available in two sizes, Container Homes offers shipping-container spaces that are ready to be lived in almost immediately after they arrive on-site; only the plumbing and electricity need to be hooked up. Each home comes cyclone- and storm-proof, and has solar power for lighting. These containers don't miss out on anything and each has its own kitchen and designated living spaces, and comes filled with furniture. containerhomes.net.au

ABOVE Transportable Space (TS1) external office by Pluscreate

LEFT An external view of a Container Homes project



Shipping containers are becoming ever more popular as outdoor rooms and even complete homes. They can be transformed into anything from a retreat or home office, to a spare bedroom and chill-out zone thanks to **Royal Wolf's** innovative new residential product, the 'Outdoor Room'. Able to be customised to individual requirements, the 20 foot modular container is fitted with power, lighting and air-conditioning. It also features timber flooring, superior insulation and glass sliding doors. It's portable and secure and made from specially modified shipping containers. royalwolf.com.au



ABOVE The Outdoor Room series by Royal Wolf

Prefab Pointers

Space — What do you need the space for? How much space do you need? Will those needs change down the track?

Relocatable — Do you need a solution that can be easily moved and transported later?

Detached or add-on — Do you want a stand-alone module or a solution that can be added to the rear of your home or as a first-floor extension?

Growth — Can you add on modules? How easy or complex is that?

Access — Does your location or site have special access issues?

Permits and approvals — What paperwork is required, who is responsible, how long does that take?

Local environment — Does the location require any special ratings or materials to guard against potential cyclone, flood, fire or termite activity?

Customisable — Does an existing floorplan suit or would you like that customised?

Design — Is there access to an in-house or external architect or interior design service?

Compliance — Who is responsible for the construction and will it meet the necessary regulations?

Sustainability — How sustainable are the factory, the materials and finishes used and are further measures related to energy and water an option?

Timelines — What stages can you expect and when?

Expectations — What will it look like when it arrives on-site: a whole module or as flat-pack components? What fittings and fixtures are included, who facilitates connection to services?

Dollars — What level of spec do you want — affordable, luxury or in between? How much should you allow for transport costs? What are the running costs?

Looks — Which interior and exterior design appeals to you visually?

Communication — Is information readily provided? It's always of value to view several completed projects and speak to past clients.

Price right

Unless you are a professional landscaper, starting a large-scale garden renovation can be daunting. There is no doubt you will need the services of an expert but who is the right person to call, where do you find them and how much should you be paying?

Words Charlie Albone

When planning your landscape, first you need to work out the scale of your project. If you only require a small renovation and are willing to get stuck into the hard yakka yourself, you may only need the advice of a landscape designer to get you started. Designers and horticulturalists offer a consultation service where they arrive at the property, listen to your needs and offer advice on layout, plants, styling and DIY tips to get the job complete. As this service utilises the time of the designer, you will need to pay for their advice, anywhere between \$200 and \$500 per hour depending on their level of experience. Usually notes are provided with this service as trying to remember all the information that the designer conveys can be a bit much. If you are making your own notes, ensure you write everything down and ask the designer as many questions as you need to make the most of your time with them.



CHARLIE ALBONE

Quotes should always be free but make sure you don't always select the cheapest to carry out the work. Landscape installation is a highly legitimate trade that is constantly undermined by contractors who have little to no horticultural knowledge, and who often complete jobs to a very substandard level at a comparatively cheap rate

If the job is a bit larger and you require concept plans, sketches or design notes to be drawn up, this will cost a bit more but can also be completed by your designer. Landscape designers work either to a fixed cost or by the hour; in my opinion, if you just need to check your ideas will fit into the space by drafting them up to scale, then go for a fixed price to ensure the budget doesn't blow out.

If you are unsure about what you are actually after and need to use the designer's imagination, go for an hourly rate as it's easier to get creative when you don't have a time deadline to meet. Designers can charge anywhere between \$100 and \$300 an hour, again depending on their experience. Finding and deciding on a designer is a very personal decision; you need to get along well with them, considering they are designing a personal space for you. However you need to be confident that they will be able to complete the job to a high standard. The Australian Institute of Landscape Designers and Managers (AILDM) has a database of accredited designers and is happy to offer advice.

If your plans require council approval in the form of Complying Development Certificate (CDC) or a full Development Application (DA), this will increase your design fees and incur a few additional costly items. First, you will need



a survey of the site from a registered surveyor which will need to be detailed to include boundaries, levels, building outlines and more. The cost of a survey for an average block is between \$1500 and \$2500 depending on the detail included on the plan. Your landscape designer should have a surveyor they work with on a regular basis or, alternatively, you can ask the Australian Institute of Building Surveyors for a local practitioner.

You also need to be aware that plans that go through council require engineer's details to sign off any structures that require consent, such as footings and walls. Engineers are worth their weight in gold as they take full responsibility for the structure's integrity, but they do charge accordingly for the service. Each item that requires an engineer's detail will require an individual drawing, which attracts an individual fee depending on its complexity. However for simple items like raised garden beds or retaining walls, expect to pay between \$500 and \$750 per detail.

Once your plans are ready to be submitted to council they will (of course) charge you for the privilege. Most councils will charge you three fees — lodgement, planning and building fees — most of

which work on a sliding scale depending on the cost of the work to be installed.

If you have decided that you are going for a large-scale garden makeover and have applied to council for approval, you will also have to find somebody to install the works and there are lots of different types of contractors out there. Quotes should always be free but make sure you don't simply select the cheapest. Landscape installation is a highly legitimate trade that is constantly undermined by contractors who have little to no horticultural knowledge, and who often complete jobs to a very substandard level at a comparatively cheap rate. To overcome hiring a 'cowboy' landscaper, make sure you see an example of their work, that they come with a reference, are licensed and have an affiliation with an association such as Landscape NSW & ACT (LNA). If quotes come in at drastically different amounts, discard the lowest and ask to see a breakdown of costs for the larger ones so you understand where the money will be spent. ✂

Charlie Albone is a landscape designer and television presenter.

Crowd pleasers

Make the most of your outdoor room with these handy hints on entertaining with ease

Words Andrea Mead

With the weather warming up and the festive season in full swing, entertaining at our place tends to happen outdoors. Whether you're lucky enough to have a fully equipped outdoor kitchen or just a barbecue and a shady spot for eating, sharing a meal with family and friends alfresco-style is one of life's simple pleasures. Except if you're the cook, right? With three teenage children I often end up entertaining for a crowd, however, with a bit of careful organising and planning, I've discovered it doesn't have to be stressful.

Plan the menu in advance, do a pantry check and then make a list of the ingredients you'll need to buy. I like to type up my list onto a spreadsheet, grouping like items together, and find this makes shopping easier and quicker. If you're going to need large quantities of meat, poultry or seafood it pays to order ahead with your butcher or fishmonger. Remember: a well-planned event reduces the risk of a badly executed day.

Entertaining for a crowd isn't the time to try out new recipes. Have a go-to collection of fail-safe dishes that are everyday favourites and then jazz them up with something a little different. Fold quinoa through a green leafy salad and sprinkle in a touch of the Moroccan spice blend, Zataar, or add roasted butternut pumpkin to a Caesar salad.

Cater for all tastes. Ask for any special dietary requirements or allergies when invitations go out or when you personally invite guests, and don't forget those who are vegetarian or gluten-intolerant. When it comes to young children don't overcomplicate things — you can't go past sausages wrapped in bread and a simple, dressing-free salad.

Keep it simple. You can't go wrong with plenty of salad and vegetables, a couple of choices of meat cooked on the barbecue and some crusty bread. Add salad dressings at the last minute to avoid salads going soggy and to cater for last-minute dietary concerns. For dessert serve a big platter of in-season fruits, some good quality cheese and ice-blocks for the kids.

Serve food on platters and wooden boards and arrange in the middle of the table, and encourage guests to help themselves. Not only does this look great, it saves work for the host. One of my favourite platter-style dishes is to lay lettuce leaves on the bottom and then layer with a few sun-dried tomatoes and fetta, followed by lamb cutlets straight from the barbecue. Top with a few more sun-dried tomatoes, a sprinkle of feta and a drizzle of extra virgin olive oil for a crowd-pleasing dish.

ANDREA MEAD



One of my favourite platter-style dishes is to lay lettuce leaves on the bottom and then layer with a few sun-dried tomatoes and fetta, followed by lamb cutlets straight from the barbecue

Set up a self-serve drinks area, complete with glassware, ice buckets and your choice of beverages. Provide plenty of water and soft drinks to cater for non-alcoholic drinkers and to encourage responsible drinking.

Ask guests to bring a plate. There's nothing wrong with asking family or friends to pitch in and bring a dish, however be sure to check in with them beforehand to make sure you don't end up with three potato salads!

Ensure your barbecue is up to the challenge. There's nothing worse than having to cook food in batches and keep it warm in the oven, risking over-cooking or "stewing". Heatlie's Island Gourmet Elite comes with a generous stainless steel hotplate that's ideal for catering for a crowd. Just remember to stagger food according to cooking times — as a rule, start with sausages, steaks and chops, then seafood and vegetables. 🍴

Andrea Mead owns and manages Heatlie, a producer of quality Australian-made barbecues. She is an avid barbecue cook and outdoor entertainer and fires up her Island Gourmet Elite most weekends for family and friends. heatlie.com.au



Compact design

Considerations for creating a functional and beautiful small outdoor room

Words John Storch

With more people living in suburban environments and an increasing tendency towards higher-density living, our outdoor rooms are becoming smaller. Despite the decrease in size, people still expect these areas to be utilised as living and entertaining spaces.

Not all small outdoor rooms are due to city living. Often larger residence gardens are split into smaller components to create several outdoor rooms that are of a more human scale than one large space. The basic rules for small outdoor room design apply to these areas as well.

Small outdoor-room design is personally the most fulfilling of all landscape design as it requires talent, intense design precision and very careful attention to detail. Small outdoor spaces and rooms must be designed and constructed very exactly as space is at a premium. Larger spaces are generally more forgiving in design of the individual components that make up the space.



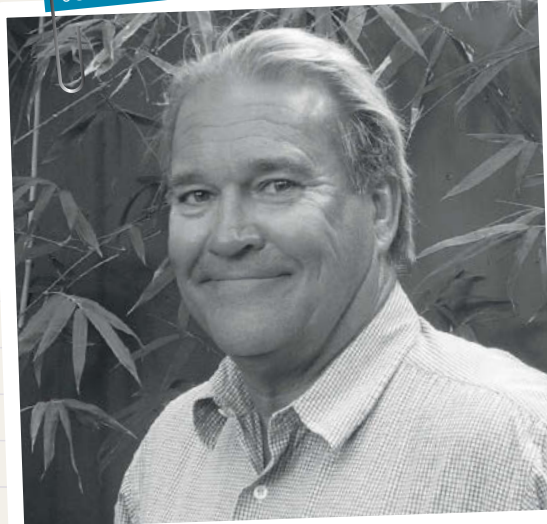
It is important not only to incorporate all the necessary functions for the small outdoor room, but visually to make it seem bigger and create the illusion of space. This can be achieved by good design principles and selection of materials.

As with all projects, you will need a design to ensure that all required components are included. Part of this includes an evaluation of the property and your lifestyle. When considering your new outdoor space, create a written list of requirements to help you define what's necessary and what's feasible as well as ensure all your wishes are met.

Take a realistic look at your lifestyle: whether or not you entertain regularly and in small, intimate numbers or in large numbers as the design will vary according to these. This will ensure the design will be tailored to you personally.

Also consider your budget, as this may lead you to decide on certain design types. For example a tropical-style courtyard using soft paving materials such as decomposed granite may

JOHN STORCH



Designer idea

On smaller properties locating the outdoor room immediately adjacent to the home creates a great sense of fusion and leaves the rest of the outdoor space free for other uses

be substantially more cost-efficient than a plunge pool within a formal garden — both of which are possible in small spaces. Check council and authority regulations at an early stage to ensure that what you want to achieve is permissible. Once you have looked at the design yourself and realised the complexities, consider engaging a talented, outdoor-room designer.

Whatever your taste in outdoor room design, remember to have fun with it! 🌿

John Storch is principal of A Total Concept Landscape Architects and Swimming Pool Designers, a multi-award-winning practice that he established in 1993. John specialises in the integration of external areas for projects ranging from family homes and elaborate residential properties to boutique and resort-style developments both in Australia and overseas. John can be contacted via atotalconcept.com.au



This small but well-functioning outdoor room shows internal/external integration that creates the illusion of space



Turf wars

A decreased amount of green space per Australian in urban areas is affecting community health. Here are some great reasons to green up our environment

Words Anthony Muscat

As urban areas continue to grow around Australia, backyards are becoming an increasing rarity in favour of apartment developments in high-density urban areas — impacting on the environmental and social benefits that come with lawns. Particularly around growing inner-city suburbs such as Elizabeth Bay, Rushcutters Bay and Wentworth Point, the availability of private green space is decreasing. Councils should therefore begin planning more comprehensively to preserve and create new public green space for residents and communities to thrive within.



Everybody enjoys living around a great green space – it has an obvious aesthetic value and drastically improves the quality of living

With more than 19 of the top 20 densest suburbs in Australia located in Sydney, the lack of greenery in dense urban areas means there is an increasing importance to shift the focus to parks and green leisure spaces.

It has been proven that families and children in high-density urban areas have more to gain from public green space, and the communal benefits are vast — a green community is a healthy community. Providing adequate recreational areas encourages active lifestyles and a healthy sense of community.

Everybody enjoys living around a great green space — it has an obvious aesthetic value and drastically improves the quality of living. Australia as a nation needs to seriously consider the role of green space moving forward as we continue to develop urban areas.

An example of a council doing great work in this area is the Sutherland Shire Council. It provides incentives for residents to participate in green programs, and has a comprehensive strategic plan in place to increase the amount of green space per person by 2030.

In an environmental space, the benefits of green space are undisputed. It helps fight soil erosion, improves drainage assistance, and helps reduce ambient noise, heat and pollution. We have research that shows having turf in your backyard lowers the ambient temperature around the home.

A lack of green space contributes to the "heat island" effect, where heavily developed areas can be a few degrees hotter than the countryside. This is because surfaces such as roads,



footpaths and the sides of buildings absorb and release energy from the sun. The World Health Organisation (WHO) indicates that cities should have a minimum of 16sqm of green space, per person, to help improve the quality of life of its residents.

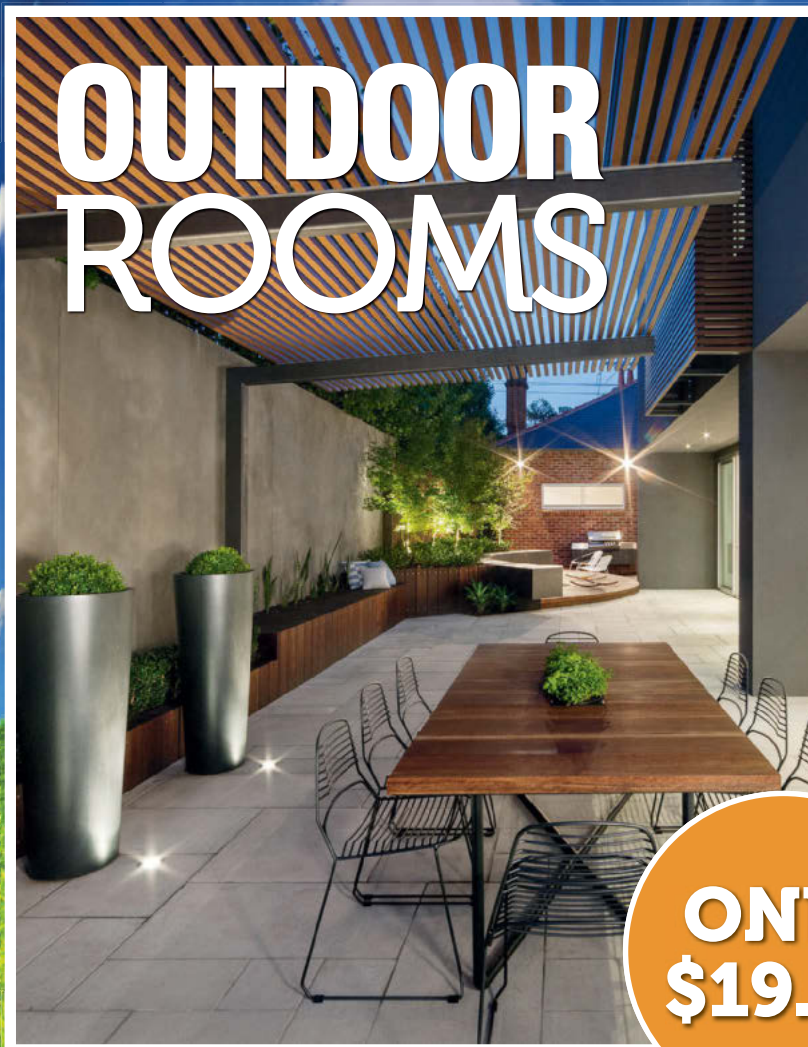
The power of councils and residents cannot be discounted in building a greener future for all Australians. As our population continues to increase over time, the availability of green space for communities needs to increase at the same rate. ❌

Anthony Muscat is the president of Turf Australia. For more information on how to get the most out of your turf, visit turfaustralia.com.au



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DESIGN IDEAS

Trends, shading, kitchens and more



MOVING FORWARD

John Storch from A Total Concept shares his summer 2014-15 trend predictions to help you create the ultimate outdoor room

Good design: Companies that link the inside and out are becoming more popular. A Total Concept is one such company that can look at a project holistically, which ensures that any change to the house is made with the future placement of external works in mind.

This ensures that the finished project is designed to flow better and appears more integrated, with consistent design and materials used throughout.

Extending the home: The most common trend for homes at the moment is to open up the rear of the home with large, sliding or concertinaed doors, remove internal walls (or design an addition) to create an open-plan style with new kitchen, then design an attached outdoor room with cooking and entertaining facilities that provide a strong linkage between the inside and outside of the home.

In addition, many designs include "bonus" rooms that can be used for office space or adapted to a variety of specialised needs, such as a gym, yoga room, artist's studio or spare bedroom.

Outdoor features: There is a resurgence in **swimming pools** with spill edges. This also allows for the inclusion of water benches, a new feature by A Total Concept, with wide benches and water cover of between 150mm and 250mm to accommodate lounge chairs in the water.

Due to higher density living, there is also a surge in the use of plunge pools, which are typically around 6m by 4m.

Cabanas and outdoor rooms are becoming even more popular. The more common trend seems to be to incorporate kitchenette facilities including fridges, barbecues, stove, cupboards and sinks and then built-in furniture such as daybeds for entertaining purposes and often a bathroom with toilet, shower, bath and basin amenities.

Heat and shade are the difference between constantly using an outdoor area and using it only when it's not too hot or cold. Obtain shade using a fixed structure, with plantings, a market umbrella or a retractable awning. Heat can be provided with radiant heaters or fire pits providing just the right amount of warmth and atmosphere.

The trend for external **paving** has been towards larger unit pavers of 600mm x 600mm, and to natural products using rumbled, part-filled travertine, or flamed-finished basalt, or shot, sawn light-coloured sandstone. Texture-finished, man-made concrete aggregates and timber decking can look great on contemporary projects using quality large-dimension timber.

Lighting is becoming an important consideration in outdoor design and is being used more correctly and extensively than in the past.

Mood and functional lighting is achieved predominantly by LED lighting linked to a dimmer. It can be both bold or subtle, used to draw attention to a feature or to achieve alternating areas of low light and washes of light to create a mood, often to simulate moonlight or starlight.

Automated systems are the biggest trend in outdoor design due to higher affordability and simplicity through smartphone connectivity to minimise maintenance. In pools, this can mean the ease of cleaning and heating or simply the ability to control a filtration system remotely.

The current trend in **planting** is towards using eclectic collages by mixing different styles together. The lines between the traditional planting styles are being blurred so that it is now acceptable to mix the various styles, incorporating aspects of both. A tropical-garden style using a haphazard mix of bamboos and palms as background planting may be mixed with a formal style border planting to create a new unified whole.

Whatever your needs coming into the summer of 2014-2015, there is one trend for certain: the boundaries between the outdoor and indoor areas will continue to merge and fuse as block sizes continue to shrink and we try to get more and more value and use out of our properties. ✂



For more information

A Total Concept
Landscape Architects and Swimming
Pool Designers
Phone 02 9957 5122
Email design@atotalconcept.com.au
Website atotalconcept.com.au



SECOND TO NONE

Create a comfortable outdoor room with a shading system to suit your home

Designed and manufactured in Germany to strict quality standards, the complete range of Markilux products was created with the harsh Australian climate in mind. With more than 40 years' experience in technical research and innovation, the company offers a solution to protect your outdoor areas, windows, balconies and even skylights with custom-made systems using the world's best machinery and materials. Its range of outdoor blinds and folding arm awnings is ideal for any conditions, whether your home is on the coast or located in a hot, dry climate.

Utilising progressive German technology, the company was the first to engineer the Bionic Tendon folding-arm element. With a neat, modern finish, every blind in the range is fully retractable and, when not in use, is either totally concealed or barely noticeable. Markilux was also the first to create nano-coated fabrics and frames that have a self-cleaning effect.

Protection from sun isn't the only benefit of installing a Markilux shading system. With increasing power bills, saving energy has become paramount and outdoor blinds are an excellent way to save dollars. As the sun's heat mainly enters a home through its glazing, shading windows can eliminate the

need to artificially heat or cool. Markilux awnings can block up to 95 per cent of the sun's heat from entering a dwelling and either eliminate or drastically reduce the need to air condition in summer. Outdoor vertical blinds can also help to retain heat inside during winter.

Whether you want to spend more time outdoors or make your indoor spaces more comfortable without wasting money on energy bills, a shading system is a good idea. ✂



For more information

Markilux Australia

Address 25/10-18 Orchard Road,
Brookvale NSW 2100

Phone 1300 654 469

Fax 02 9939 0265

Email info@markilux.com.au

Website markilux.com.au





KEEP YOUR COOL

Make entertaining a breeze with an alfresco kitchen

Pack those eskies and ice buckets away, an outdoor kitchen from MyAlfresco comes with all the bells and whistles. With the option of a barbecue and rangehood, pizza oven, refrigerator, storage and sink, there's no need to traipse in and out of your home when entertaining family or friends.

Featuring a heated glass door and tropical specification, the Alfresco Bar Fridge range was designed for the Australian climate. The ALF C2 840 two-door drinks chiller has a 190L net capacity

and electronic temperature control. The model features an auto defrost function as well as new, low-emission glass for improved energy performance. For those that entertain frequently, a three-door model is also available.

MyAlfresco is a division of Arisit Pty Ltd and specialises in the supply of beautifully designed outdoor kitchens. Besides its impressive barbecues, the company also offers wood-fired pizza ovens, rangehoods, glass-back bar fridges, SmartStrip heating options as well as a stylish selection of sink and tapware.



MyAlfresco's modular-based designs give you the freedom to design your own outdoor kitchen, with options to suit all requirements and budgets.

MyAlfresco kitchens are resilient to water and UV exposure and the company offers a 100 per cent warranty. Available in four different colours, the materials used in the kitchen cabinets and benchtops have an impressive 10-year warranty for external use.

The company offers a complete installation service for all of its kitchens as well as a quick turnaround time from receipt of order to manufacture and installation – so you can get cooking (and eating) outdoors in no time. ✂



For more information

MyAlfresco

Phone (03) 9768 0823

Email nick.detsirapis@arisit.com

Website myalfresco.com



SAVE TIME

Spend less time on maintenance and more time enjoying your outdoor room

With summer around the corner, barbecues are being lit, pools cleaned and decks swept. People all across the country are gearing up for another fantastic Australian summer.

Often this excitement is tarnished when you step out onto the deck and realise what three to six months of neglect has done to your outdoor room. Your timber decking is cracking and swelling around the screw holes, the paint on your privacy screen is bubbling under the surface and the fence looks like it could fall over in a stiff breeze.

We've all toiled away trying to make our outdoor rooms look new again — sanding and varnishing, oiling decks over and over and spending our weekends renovating. What if you could spend the weekends leading up to summer doing the things you enjoy instead of staying at home to work on the house?

Knotwood provides a range of extruded aluminium products that give style to your outdoor area while eliminating the maintenance associated with timber. Unlike wood/plastic composites, Knotwood remains light and easy to work with because it's made from powder-coated aluminium rather than wood.

Owned and run by Australians, Knotwood uses local materials to make products suitable for our unique conditions.

Its products are available in more than 30 timber-look finishes and a large range of powder-coat colours. Each finish is backed by a 10-year warranty and exceeds Australian finishing standards. The company's range of products is available nationwide with a network of professionals that provide installation services to most of the country. Call Knotwood for a free sample. ✉



For more information

Knotwood
Phone 1300 566 896 (1300 KNOTWOOD)
Email sales@knotwood.com.au
Website knotwood.com.au



SHADE & PROTECT

A European awning manufacturer has teamed up with an Aussie company for shading solutions that focus on quality and style

Simple sun and wind protection are vital to enhancing any outdoor room. By shading or protecting your outdoor room from the elements, it is more functional all-year-round.

Retractable roofs and folding-arm awnings can provide sun and rain protection when you most need it, and without impacting upon your enjoyment of your outdoor area.

Incorporating these highly functional features needn't detract from the style of your home. Since 1987 Blinds by Peter Meyer has been manufacturing high-quality designer blinds and awnings and has authorised dealers across Australia and New Zealand.

"Our product range and selection is by far one of the broadest around. We manufacture a massive number of exclusive products that will set your home apart from the rest," says Blinds by Peter Meyer's Simon Meyer. In a major coup for the Australian company, it has recently been appointed as the exclusive distributor of renowned European awning manufacturer Weinor. With both companies holding a solid heritage in the field, plus a focus on precision and quality, the partnership is a perfect match. Simon stresses the importance of good quality, particularly when "your products live outside!".

The latest Weinor awnings have been turning heads, winning multiple design awards throughout Europe. As well as offering

56 standard frame colours and more than 200 exclusive fabric options, the new Weinor range includes built-in heaters and LED lighting — useful features for any outdoor room or area.

Also among Blinds by Peter Meyer's new products is a range of side screens, perfect for deflecting wind, to make outside entertaining and dining easier and more enjoyable.

The company offers a full measure and installation service, as well as expert advice on selecting the right product to suit your outdoor room. ☒



For more information

Blinds by Peter Meyer

Address 25 Richmond Road, Homebush NSW

Phone 1800 254 631

Email sales@petermeyerblinds.com.au

Website petermeyerblinds.com.au

PARTY CENTRAL

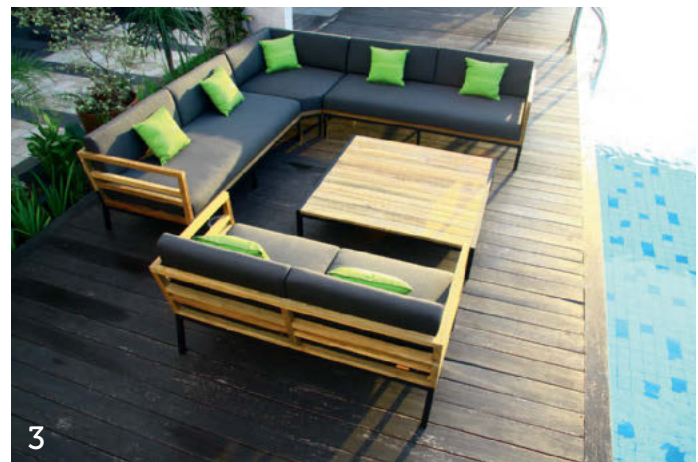
Summer or winter, rain, hail or shine, entertaining outdoors has never been so easy or looked so good

Words James Cleland

Entertaining friends and family is part and parcel of any well-rounded lifestyle, yet Australians seem to have turned it from a pastime into a cultural ritual. A well-designed entertainment space is one that is flexible enough to work for any occasion and able to be used year-round, regardless of season or weather. A broad range of products and materials go into making the perfect outdoor setting, and each home will have its own definition of the perfect space.



1. These high-durability speakers from **Bose** offer 360° of audio coverage and are perfectly suited to installations that are either in or above ground and situated in landscaped outdoor spaces. Engineered to withstand extreme weather conditions, the speakers are a formidable choice for those looking to provide audio to an outdoor environment. worldwide.bose.com 2. KEF has a long tradition of creating phenomenal loudspeakers. Available at **Advance Audio**, the Ventura series continues this with marine-quality weatherproofing combined with superb audio performance, creating a speaker that is suitable in even the most extreme weather conditions. advancedaudio.com.au 3. The Zudu corner sofa from **MAMAGREEN** features clean lines and premium materials, including the Sunbrella outdoor textile known for its soft feel and robust strength as well as FSC-certified recycled teak. Angular forms, a bold teak frame and the softness of Sunbrella make this a true luxury piece. mamagreen.com.au





4. Combining old-world craftsmanship with current manufacturing techniques, **Saporo** wood-fired ovens are a perfect addition to any external entertaining space. Authentic Italian tastes and smells will permeate your outdoors when using this simple-to-use and lightweight wood-fired oven. saporewoodovens.com.au 5. The simple and elegant lines of this dining suite from **Cosh Living** make it a perfect addition to any outdoor setting. The natural timbers of the tabletop and the sleek iron frame can be paired with almost any combination of dining chairs, modern or classic. coshliving.com.au 6. The all-weather TVs by Sunbrite provide a durable HD-quality LED solution for outdoor entertaining spaces. Fully designed to withstand the rigours of dust, salt, insects and rain, they are the perfect match for the Australian outdoor entertainer. Available from **Herma Technologies**. herma.com.au 7. Specially designed for alfresco entertaining, the Escea wood fireplace from **Chazelles** incorporates an atmospheric outdoor heating solution combined with a fully realised barbecue hotplate. Limited only by the design of outdoor architects' imaginations, the Escea provides a hub of natural light and energy for any external entertainment space. chazelles.com.au 8. Rugged, weather resistant and with exceptional sound performance, the AW5500 outdoor speakers by Definitive Technology are a top choice for any homeowner looking for a balanced sound stage and formidable bass. Available at **Advance Audio**. advancedaudio.com.au

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The Essentials



Teak sunlounger

Made of premium-grade plantation teak, the Albany Sunlounger from Jati features five reclining positions including a flat position for ultimate relaxation. With a simple design and clean, minimalist lines, this sunlounger will fit into a range of outdoor styles. The Albany sunlounger has rubber-lined teak wheels so it's easy to move and comes with a five-year warranty and optional cushion.

[JATI | JATI.COM.AU](http://JATI.COM.AU)

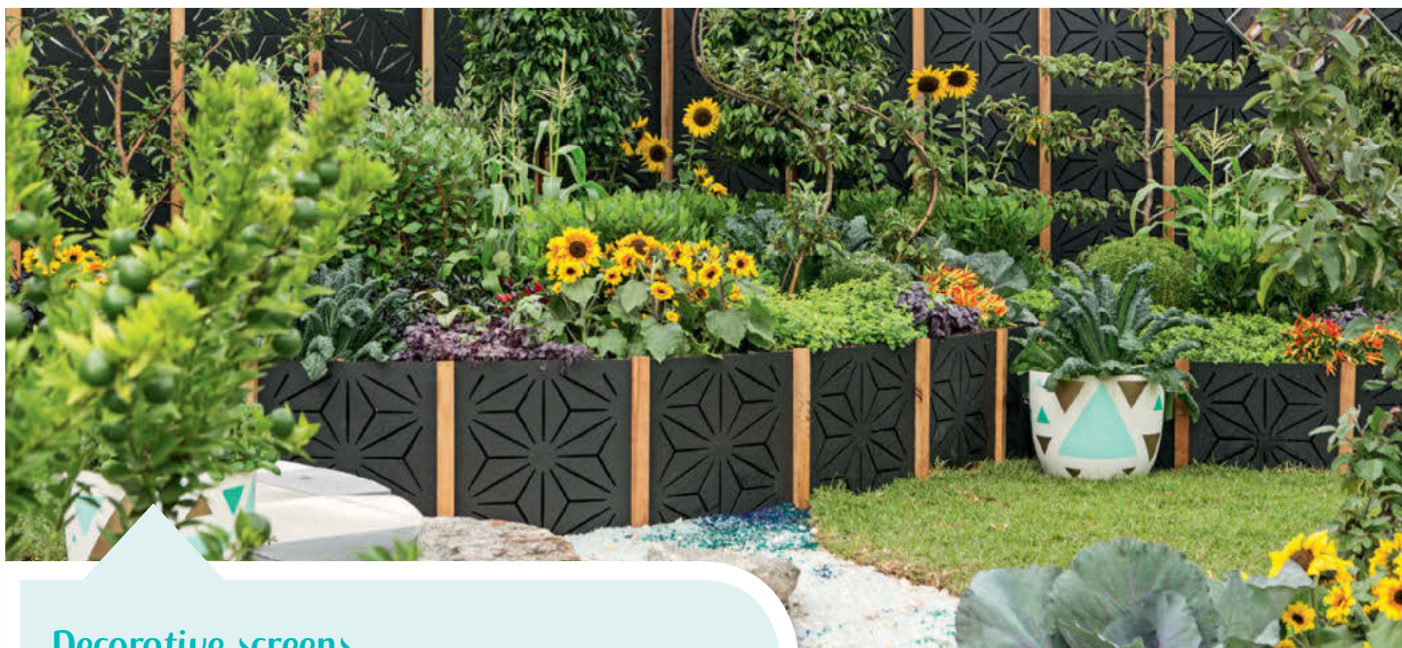
Contemporary range

Setting a new standard for outdoor furniture, the Nusa Dua range is manufactured using premium-quality materials. Available in white and black, the Nusa Dua Sunlounger is made from world-renowned French Batyline sling and premium quality stainless steel.

With fast and free metro shipping Australia-wide, a 14-day money-back guarantee and three-year product warranty, Bali Republic is Australia's pre-eminent online store for luxurious outdoor furniture.

[BALI REPUBLIC | BALIREPUBLIC.COM.AU](http://BALIREPUBLIC.COM.AU)





Decorative screens

Outdeco's Black Decoshield finish offers an extra level of sophistication to your screening project. Ideal for complementing other modern finishes such as bluestone and stainless steel, the finish also offers superior UV-protection ensuring your outdoor screens will look better for longer. Outdeco offers two stock patterns in the Black Decoshield finish — Marakesh and Bungalow — but they can also custom-produce any screen design as required. Pictured here is Star Anais in Black Decoshield as featured in Phillip Withers' 'Here and Now' garden at the 2014 Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show. This impressive display took out the Honda Sustainability Award.

[OUTDECO](#) | [OUTDECO.COM](#)

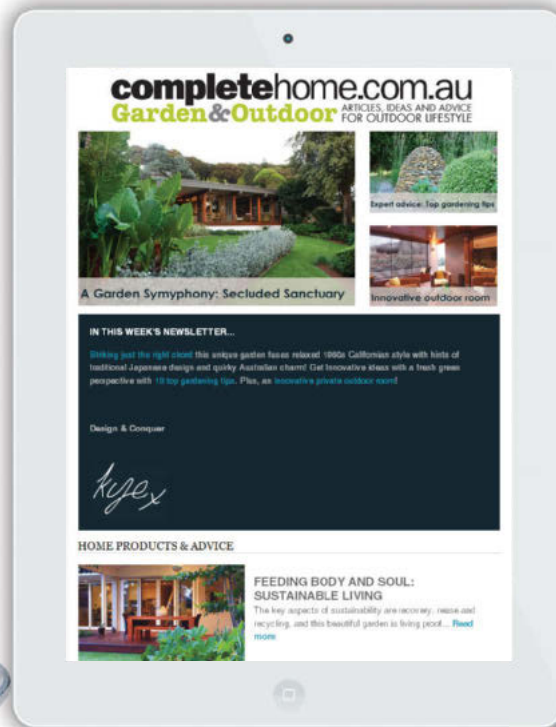
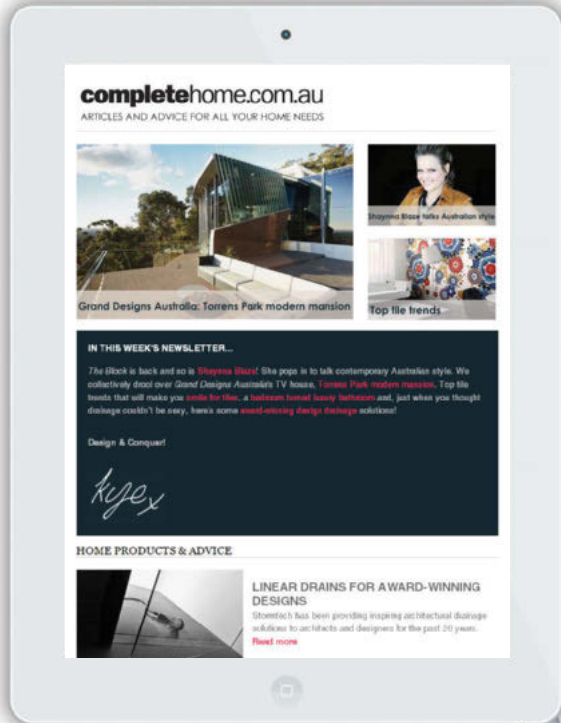
Unique seating

Designed by Eero Aarnio and inspired by his penchant for the graceful dove, the Paloma illuminated planter Serralunga 1825 can be used as original seating. Available at Kellock Trading, this creative planter is suitable for both indoor and outdoor use — floating on water, mounted to the wall or fixed to the ground. Made of rotational moulded polyethylene, this planter is available in a translucent LED version if you prefer to use it as a lamp or illuminated garden feature.

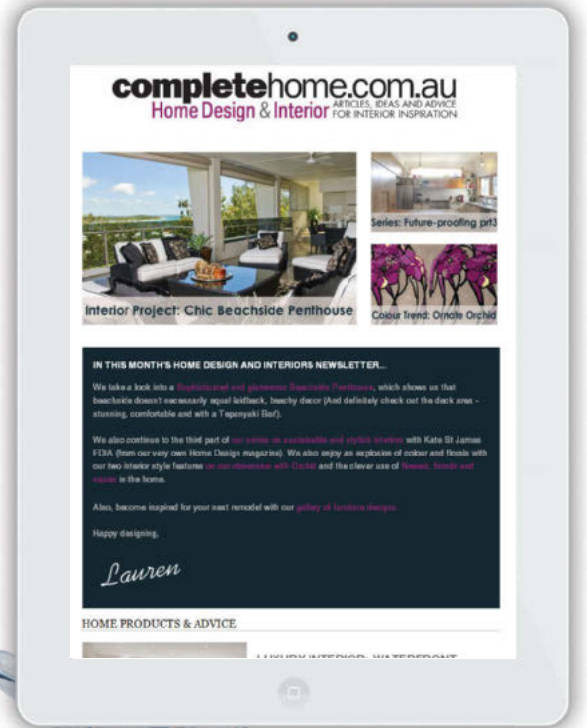
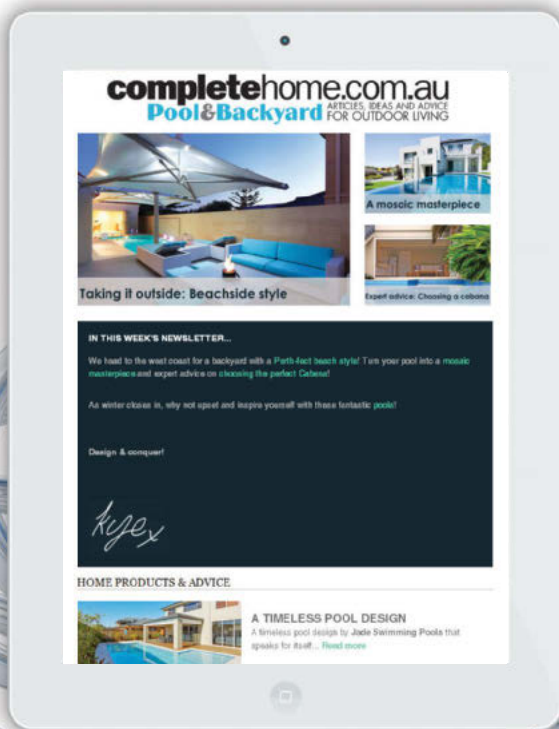
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Reef Collection



Granada Collection



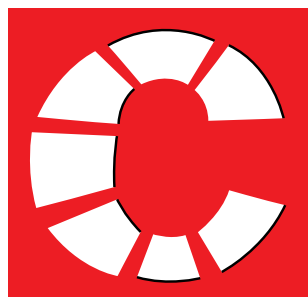
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